

# MANATEE RESCUES



Watch the “Stranded Manatee Rescued Under Bridge” video to learn about what it takes to rescue a manatee.

<https://youtu.be/9JlQOSlpnml>

## **Manatee Rescues:**

Manatees are a protected species which means that it is illegal to touch, feed, or swim with them. The people in this video are trained and given permits to rescue manatees. If you ever come across an animal, like a manatee, that needs help, please always call a rescue team and never try to rescue it by yourself.

Stranded animals are usually found on a shoreline, alive, and in need of help for some reason. Usually it is because that animal is very hurt or sick. This happens more with dolphins and whales than manatees. Manatees usually have to be rescued in the water when they are sick or injured. The manatee in this video was probably feeding in shallow waters and the tide got lower and lower before the manatee realized she could not swim away.



# Rescue Equipment Inventory



Use the work bank below to fill out the use of each equipment item.

**Move Identify Skin Long**



The bucket is used to stop the manatee's \_\_\_\_\_ from drying out and getting a sunburn.



The manatee straps and stretcher are used to \_\_\_\_\_ the manatee.



The chalk marker is used to show scars on the manatee's back. This is used to \_\_\_\_\_ the manatee.



The measuring tape is used to measure how \_\_\_\_\_ the manatee is.



## Team Rescue Clearwater



Manatees are just one of the types of animals Clearwater Marine Aquarium rescues. Every animal is different which means different animals need different equipment. The stranding hotline has just received a phone call for a baby dolphin that needs our help. Can you help the Rescue Team get their items ready based on the voicemail?

**“Hi, my name is Hope and I am calling to report a baby dolphin stranded on the shore of Clearwater Beach! The animal only looks like it is four feet and may have not been eating for a while because it looks thin. It is low tide right now, but high tide is soon, so the water is going to start moving in and it may become too deep for the dolphin to have access to the air. Also, it is very hot and sunny today. Please send someone to the beach soon. In the meantime, I will make sure people don’t crowd or touch the dolphin.”**

Circle the item you think that the Rescue Team will need from the choices below:

1. This appears to be a baby dolphin or calf, I should bring the **large or small** stretcher (circle one) to move it to more shallow waters or transport it for rehabilitation.
2. The caller said the dolphin looked like it hadn't been eating, I should bring **milk formula or whole** fish (circle one)?
3. The caller mentioned that it was very hot and sunny, I should bring **sunscreen or towels** (circle one) to protect the dolphin's sensitive skin.
4. The dolphin appears to be in the water, I should grab everyone's **dive boots or flip flops** (circle one) so they can protect their feet.
5. The caller said the dolphin was about four feet but I want to make sure the Rescue Team can get accurate measurements of the dolphin, I should pack the **scale or measuring tape** (circle one).