

Sound production of a neonate bottlenose dolphin

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The development of sound production abilities in bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) is poorly understood. In this paper, we describe acoustic features of early sounds produced by a newborn. Initial underwater sounds (produced 24-48 h after birth) consisted exclusively of burst-pulses. By day five, whistle-like elements were evident as components of burst-pulse sounds. These data suggest that dolphins can produce burst-pulse sounds from a very young age and that the mechanisms dolphins use to produce both whistles and burst-pulse sounds are closely related. *Aquatic Mammals*, 2001, 27, 34-44.