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Press Materials: [pbs.org/pressroom](https://pbs.org/pressroom) or [thirteen.org/pressroom](https://thirteen.org/pressroom)

## **Witness Never-Before-Seen Footage of Arctic Killer Whale Behavior in *Nature: Expedition Killer Whale***

*Premieres Wednesday, February 12 at 8/7c on PBS*

In a remote corner of Antarctica, a group of killer whales capture their prey in the most extraordinary fashion. Swimming together, they create waves so powerful and accurate, they can wash a seal right off a piece of floating ice – some of the most sophisticated behavior in the animal kingdom. A team of scientists and filmmakers try to advance our understanding of these compelling animals in ***Nature: Expedition Killer Whale***, premiering Wednesday, February 12 at 8/7c on PBS ([check local listings](#)), [pbs.org/nature](https://pbs.org/nature), [YouTube](#) and the [PBS App](#).

The hunting technique of pack-ice killer whales has intrigued scientists for decades, and there is still so much unknown about the species. Each scientist on the expedition hopes to discover new truths about these whales. For whale biologist Leigh Hickmott, the mission becomes personal when he searches for his favorite killer whale, a powerful female that holds her family together through decades of experience and supreme intelligence. Another scientist, Jessica Farrer, Research Director at The Whale Museum, has an unusual way of studying marine mammals – she collects their poop, from which she can discern information about their health and environment. Her dream is to collect the poop of a pack-ice killer whale, something never done before.

The film team deploys drones to get an aerial perspective of the whales as well as gyro-stabilized lenses mounted on small boats – all adding new insights into how these extraordinary animals hunt and how they live as families. The team documents something not seen before –

an hours-long teaching session, where adult females demonstrate hunting skills to their young. In another first, the team records the calls of the killer whales as they search for prey, coordinate their wave-making, and share their meal.

***Nature: Expedition Killer Whale*** is a BBC Studios Natural History Unit production for PBS and BBC with The WNET Group. The documentary is produced and directed by Vanessa Coates and Mark Wheeler. Bumper Robinson narrates. For BBC, Orla Doherty is Executive Producer. For ***Nature***, Fred Kaufman is Executive Producer. Bill Murphy is Series Producer. Janet Hess is Series Editor. ***Nature*** is a production of The WNET Group.

Support for ***Nature: Expedition Killer Whale*** is provided in part by The Hite Foundation, Perpetual Kindness Foundation and Sun Hill Renewal Fund. Series funding for ***Nature*** is made possible in part by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, The Arnhold Family in memory of Henry and Clarisse Arnhold, The Fairweather Foundation, Sue and Edgar Wachenheim III, Kate W. Cassidy Foundation, Kathy Chiao and Ken Hao, Charles Rosenblum, Sarah and Sandra Lyu in memory of Seung and Dorothy Lyu, Colin S. Edwards, Filomen M. D'Agostino Foundation, Lillian Goldman Charitable Trust, Gregg Peters Monsees Foundation, Seton J. Melvin, Koo and Patricia Yuen, Sandra Atlas Bass, Bradley L. Goldberg Family Foundation, and public television viewers.

Since 1982, ***Nature*** has pioneered a television genre that is now widely emulated in the broadcast industry, bringing the natural world to millions of viewers. The series has won more than 800 honors from the television industry, the international wildlife film communities and environmental organizations, including 21 Emmys and three Peabodys. ***Nature*** is available for streaming concurrent with broadcast on all station-branded PBS platforms, including [PBS.org](https://www.pbs.org) and the [PBS App](#), available on iOS, Android, Roku streaming devices, Apple TV, Android TV, Amazon Fire TV, Samsung Smart TV, Chromecast and VIZIO. Classic episodes are available on various [FAST channel platforms](#) and on [PBS Passport](#).

**Websites:**

[pbs.org/nature](https://www.pbs.org/nature); [facebook.com/PBSNature](https://www.facebook.com/PBSNature); [twitter.com/PBSNature](https://twitter.com/PBSNature); [instagram.com/pbsnature](https://www.instagram.com/pbsnature); [youtube.com/naturepbs](https://www.youtube.com/naturepbs), [tiktok.com/@pbsnature](https://www.tiktok.com/@pbsnature), #NaturePBS

**About The WNET Group**

[The WNET Group](#) creates inspiring media content and meaningful experiences for diverse audiences nationwide. It is the community-supported home of New York's [THIRTEEN](#) – America's flagship PBS station – [WLIW](#), THIRTEEN PBS KIDS, WLIW World and Create; [NJ PBS](#), New Jersey's statewide public television network; Long Island's only NPR station WLIW-FM; [ALL ARTS](#), the arts and culture media provider; newsroom [NJ Spotlight News](#); and FAST channel PBS Nature.

Through these channels and streaming platforms, The WNET Group brings arts, culture, education, news, documentary, entertainment, and DIY programming to more than five million viewers each month. The WNET Group's award-winning productions include signature PBS series ***Nature***, ***Great Performances***, ***American Masters***, and ***Amanpour and Company*** and trusted local news programs like ***NJ Spotlight News with Briana Vannozzi***. Inspiring curiosity and nurturing dreams, The WNET Group's award-winning Kids' Media and Education team produces the PBS KIDS series ***Cyberchase***, interactive ***Mission US*** history games, and resources for families, teachers and caregivers. A leading nonprofit public media producer for more than 60 years, The WNET Group presents and distributes content that fosters lifelong learning, including initiatives addressing poverty, jobs, economic opportunity, social justice, understanding, and the environment. Through Passport, station members can stream new and archival programming anytime, anywhere. The WNET Group represents the best in public media. Join us.

### **About PBS**

[PBS](#), with more than 330 member stations, offers all Americans the opportunity to explore new ideas and new worlds through television and digital content. Each month, PBS reaches over 42 million adults on linear primetime television, more than 15 million users on PBS-owned streaming platforms, and 56 million people view PBS content on social media, inviting them to experience the worlds of science, history, nature, and public affairs; to hear diverse viewpoints; and to take front-row seats to world-class drama and performances. PBS's broad array of programs has been consistently honored by the industry's most coveted award competitions. Teachers of children from pre-K through 12th grade turn to [PBS LearningMedia](#) for digital content and services that help bring classroom lessons to life. As the number one educational media brand, [PBS KIDS](#) helps children 2-8 build critical skills, enabling them to find success in school and life. Delivered through member stations, PBS KIDS offers high-quality content on TV — including a PBS KIDS channel — and streaming free on [pbskids.org](#) and the [PBS KIDS Video app](#), games on the [PBS KIDS Games app](#), and in communities across America. More information about PBS is available at [PBS.org](#), one of the leading dot-org websites on the internet, [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), or through our [apps for mobile and connected devices](#). Specific program information and updates for press are available at [pbs.org/pressroom](#) or by following [PBS Communications on Twitter](#).

### **About BBC Natural History Unit**

BBC Studios Natural History Unit produces the world's most iconic natural history programmes, such as *Blue Planet II* and *Planet Earth II*, which have been watched by more than a billion people globally. Ranging from technically challenging live shows and super-landmarks to long-running series and children's content, The Natural History Unit programmes include *Planet Earth III* presented by Sir David Attenborough to *Dynasties*, *Blue Planet Live*, *Springwatch*, *Andy's Aquatic Adventures* and third-party commissions for Discovery, AppleTV+, NBCU, National Geographic / Disney+, Migu and BBC America. The Natural History Unit is part of BBC Studios.

### **About BBC Studios**

BBC Studios is a commercial subsidiary of the BBC Group with sales of £2.1 billion (2021/22: £1,630 million). Able to take an idea seamlessly from thought to screen and beyond, the business is built on two operating areas: the global Content Studio, which produces, invests and distributes content globally and Channels & Streaming, with BBC branded channels, services and joint ventures in the UK and internationally. Around 2,500 hours of award-winning British programmes are made by the business every year, with over 80% of total BBC Studios revenues coming from non-BBC customers including Discovery, Apple and Netflix. Its content is internationally recognised across a broad range of genres and specialisms, with brands like *Strictly Come Dancing/Dancing with the Stars*, *Top Gear*, the *Planet* series, *Bluey* and *Doctor Who*. BBC.com is BBC Studios' global digital news platform, offering up-to-the-minute international news, in-depth analysis and features.

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