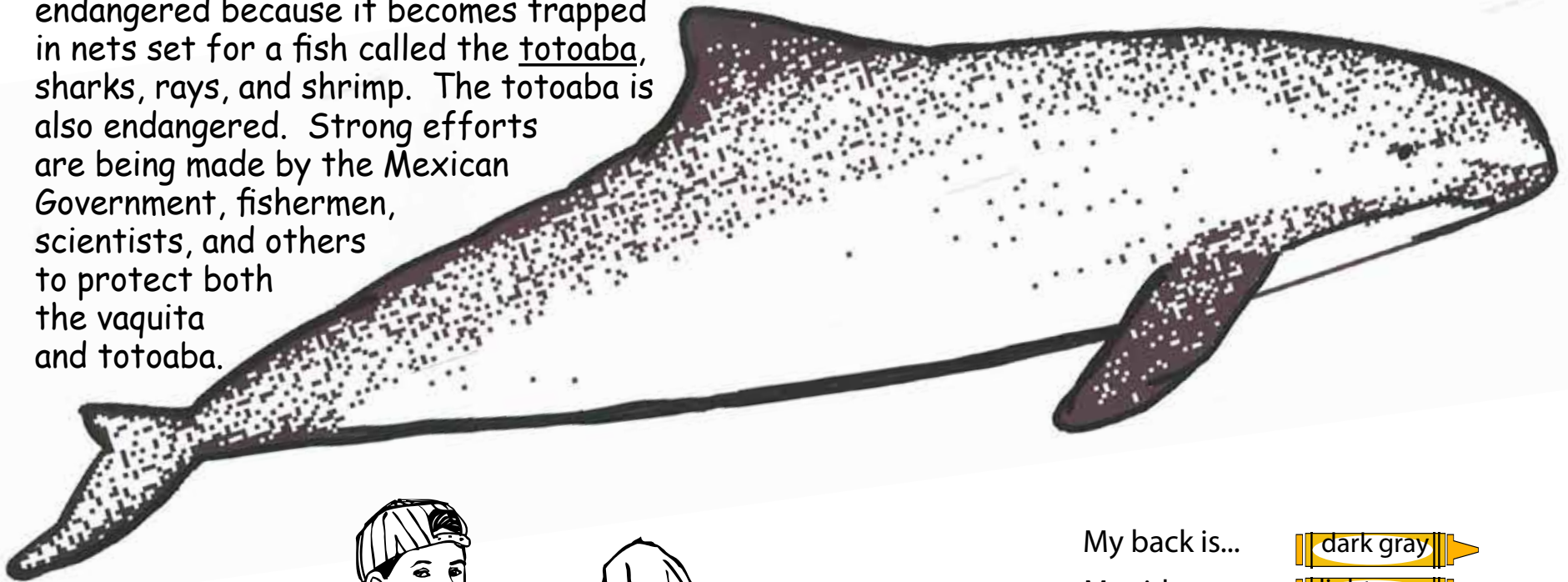


Family Phocoenidae ~ porpoises

vaquita *Phocoena sinus*




The vaquita (vah-keeta) may be the most endangered *oceanic whale species. Scientists think the vaquita is endangered because it becomes trapped in nets set for a fish called the totoaba, sharks, rays, and shrimp. The totoaba is also endangered. Strong efforts are being made by the Mexican Government, fishermen, scientists, and others to protect both the vaquita and totoaba.

VAQUITA SPECS	
<u>length:</u>	5 feet (1.5 meters)
<u>home:</u>	Gulf of California
<u>status:</u>	endangered - only a few hundred left
<u>cause for concern:</u>	overfishing - trapped in nets



These petite porpoises are just 1.5 m (5 ft) long. Are you longer or shorter than a vaquita?



- My back is... 
- My sides are... 
- My belly is... 

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*River dolphins, like the Chinese river dolphin are frighteningly close to extinction.