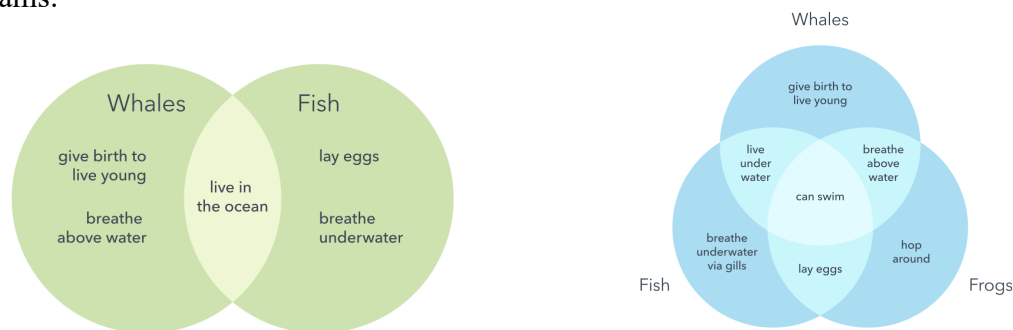


# Venn Diagram

Venn Diagrams are graphic organizers that are typically used by students in order to logically distinguish the similarities and differences of multiple things. In its most simple form, a Venn Diagram is pictured by drawing two overlapping circles. Each circle represents a certain item, and the overlapping part represents their similarities. Though in its most known form it only compares 2 concepts, Venn Diagrams can be used to compare and contrast up to 5 different items and are of significant importance in the classroom.

## HOW TO USE:

1. **Introduction of Ideas** – teacher takes the time to introduce the ideas needed for the Venn Diagram. This could be within the regular direct instruction, or with a video for general themes. This step is entirely up to the instructor, and they should keep the ending task in mind when deciding how to approach this step.
2. **Set up** – The students should first determine how many categories they are to compare and draw that many overlapping circles onto their paper. Typically, there are 2 or 3 circles that overlap, looking like one of the following diagrams:



The students would then list their different characteristics of each topic in the circles, and their similarities in the overlapped part of the circles.

3. **Application** – This is where the students make use of the diagram, whether it be for mathematical, reading, writing, or decision-making purpose. Venn Diagrams should never be made to just to be made, they should have some sort of purpose or context for the student.

## WHEN TO USE:

1. There is a need to visually organize information for quick reference
2. Used in comparing and contrasting two or more items or choices
3. Can be used in order to solve complex mathematical problems
4. Finding correlations and probabilities within two or more data sets
5. When student(s) struggle with meanings/themes involved between vocabulary or vocabulary sets
6. In order to define relationships between concepts

## VARIATIONS:

1. **T Charts** – A graphic organizer to help students to ponder different aspects of a certain situation, object, or problem. It is created by drawing a simple “T” on a student’s paper and writing to the left and right of the center line. Most frequently, T Charts are used as pros/cons lists for decision making.
2. **Comparison Matrices** – A Comparison Matrix can be used to quickly compare and contrast items based on a certain set of criterion. It is drawn much like a table, where the rows are the things to be compared, and the columns are the criterion for comparison. In the inner boxes, “X”s are marked to denote where the two “match-up”.
3. **Double Bubble Maps** – A Double Bubble Map is another way to compare two different subjects. It is constructed with two “bubbles” of topics for comparison and then lines connect the two bubbles with more bubbles containing similarities, or lines go to bubbles of their own out to the sides, containing differences.