The order sirenia, a name which means mermaid, consists of three species of manatees and one species of dugong. Unlike other marine mammals, those of the order sirenia are herbivores, eating only sea grasses. Manatees and dugongs are highly specialized mammals who live a precarious existence. Their metabolic rate is so slow that they are extremely intolerant to any cold water. They are found in rivers, estuaries, and coastal waters Florida, South America, and the Caribbean. Unfortunately, both manatee and dugong are endangered species that are still hunted despite international protection.