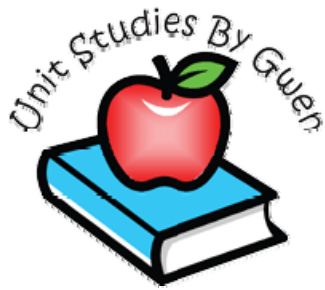


Print double sided. Cut on the red lines. Fold on the dotted lines.



You may print as many of these as you need for your class or other event.

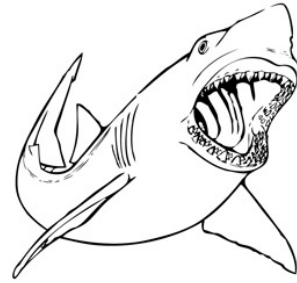
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Sharks

by Gwen Nicodemus



This book belongs to:

Some sharks give birth to live young, called shark pups. Other sharks lay eggs.

Most sharks hatch from their eggs while still in the mother shark. They live off of their egg yolk and other eggs inside the mother shark until they are born.

The picture below shows an egg case from a Port Jackson shark.



Sharks are fish.

Sharks don't have bones. They have cartilage.

Sharks have 5 to 7 gills.

Sharks can grow new teeth.

Sharks are shaped to swim fast.



Sharks are fish.

Fish are animals with spines that live in and breathe water.

Fish have scales and fins.

Scales are tiny, hard plates that cover an animal.



Some sharks have to swim in order to breathe. These sharks need to make sure water keeps coming into their gills so they can keep getting oxygen. If they stop swimming, new water will not go into their gills.

Other sharks, such as the nurse shark, can stop swimming. They can pump water over their gills to ensure a fresh supply of water.

If you visit an aquarium, you might see a nurse shark resting on the bottom of the tank.

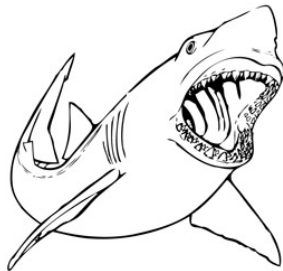


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Most sharks are cold blooded. This means that their body temperature is close to the temperature of the water in which they swim.

Some sharks, such as the great white sharks, can keep their body temperature higher than the surrounding water. These sharks are not true warm-blooded animals, though.

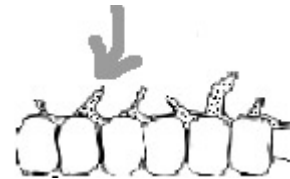
Are you warm blooded or cold blooded?



10

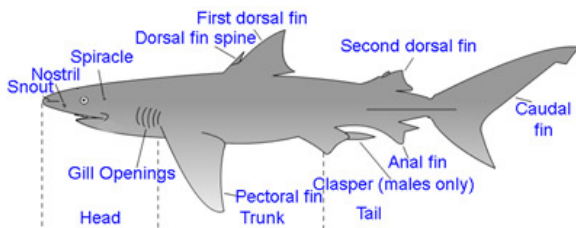
The scales on sharks are called denticles.

Denticles are similar to teeth!



3

Sharks have a head, a middle called a trunk, and a tail.



8

Sharks have 5 to 7 gills. Gills filter the oxygen out of the water.

A shark's gills are like your lungs.

The picture below shows the gills of a tuna fish.



5

Print double sided. Cut on the red lines. Fold on the dotted lines.

Sharks have cartilage instead of bones.

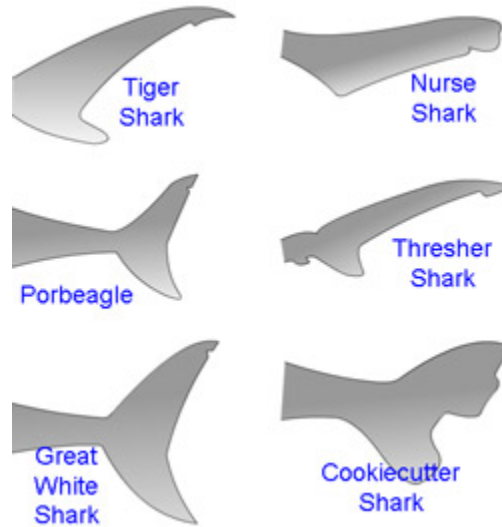
Cartilage is made up of fibers inside of a firm gel. Think of cartilage as a smaller version of ropes inside of really thick jello.

Your nose is has cartilage inside of it instead of a bone.



4

Different kinds of sharks have different kinds of tails.



9

Sharks have more than one row of teeth in their mouth. Teeth grow continuously.

Your teeth are connected to your jaw bone. A shark's teeth are connected to skin.

The tooth below is from a tiger shark.



6

Sharks are streamlined, which means they are shaped to swim fast. They don't have a lot of extra stuff hanging off their bodies. Extra stuff slows fish down.

See the shark and jelly fish below. The jelly fish isn't designed to swim fast. It just floats. It has a lot of things hanging off of its body.



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