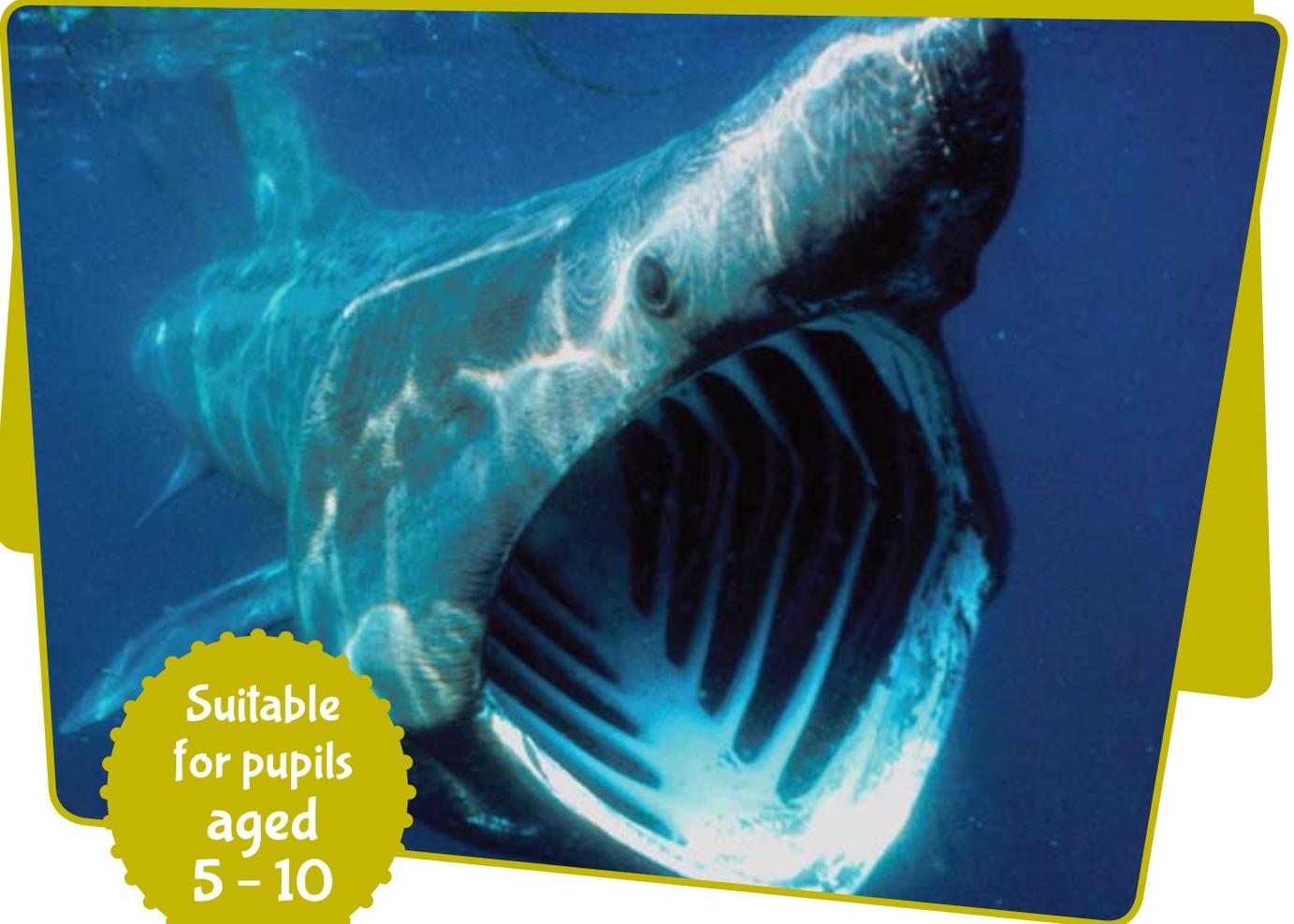


Welcome to the Animal Action Education Programme from IFAW

featured animals: **Sharks**



Suitable
for pupils
aged
5 - 10

For more information and additional activities visit:

www.ifaw.org/lesson-plans-uk

This resource includes the following skills for Year 1-6 pupils, linked to the 2014 Primary National Curriculum:

Here, Fishy, Fishy!

Pages 3-4

Mathematics: Number – addition and subtraction. (Years 1 and 2)

Ready to Write...About Sharks!

Page 5

English: Writing – composition – writing for different purposes. (Year 2)

Turning the Tide for Sharks

Pages 6-7

English: Reading – comprehension. **Science:** Animals, including humans, Living things and their habitats. (Years 3 – 6)

Shark Facts

Page 8

Science: Animals, including humans, Living things and their habitats, Working Scientifically. (Years 3 – 6)



The whale shark is the largest living fish in the world and can grow up to 18 metres in length. Despite its size, the shark is very gentle and completely harmless to people.

IFAW works to draw attention to the threats faced by sharks in many regions. By bringing together scientists and government officials, IFAW is creating a conversation on why we need to work together toward shark conservation.

Here, Fishy, Fishy!

Many sharks eat fish, including other sharks

A maths activity for Years 1 and 2.

This lesson links to Mathematics: Number – addition and subtraction.

A few years ago, IFAW helped release a whale shark, nicknamed Sammy, from a hotel display in the Middle East. The huge shark had been forced to swim around in circles in a small tank for 18 months.



Write the number sentence. Solve.

A A whale shark sees 9 fish. Then it sees 4 more.
How many fish does it see in all?

_____ _____ = _____
fish

B 15 fish try to swim away from a hammer head shark. The shark catches 8 fish.
How many fish get away?

_____ _____ = _____
fish

C A Mako shark sees a group of 7 fish. Then the group grows to 16 fish.
How many fish joined the group?

_____ _____ = _____
fish

D There are 11 bull sharks. More bull sharks join the group. There are now 18 bull sharks.
How many bull sharks came later?

_____ _____ = _____
bull sharks

E A great white shark eats 9 tuna fish in the morning. Then it eats more tuna fish at lunchtime. It eats 15 tuna fish in all.
How many tuna fish did it eat at noon?

_____ _____ = _____
tuna fish

F A nurse shark sees 20 shrimp. It eats 12 of the shrimp.
How many shrimp are left?

_____ _____ = _____
shrimp

Here, Fishy, Fishy!

Answer Key

- A.** $9 + 4 = 13$
- B.** $15 - 8 = 7$
- C.** $16 - 7 = 9$
- D.** $18 - 11 = 7$
- E.** $15 - 9 = 6$
- F.** $20 - 12 = 8$

For more information and additional activities visit:

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Name _____

Ready to Write...About Sharks!

A literacy activity for Year 2. **This lesson links to English: Writing – Composition**
(Vocabulary in bold within this lesson may require additional class discussion).

Check the box after completing each prompt.

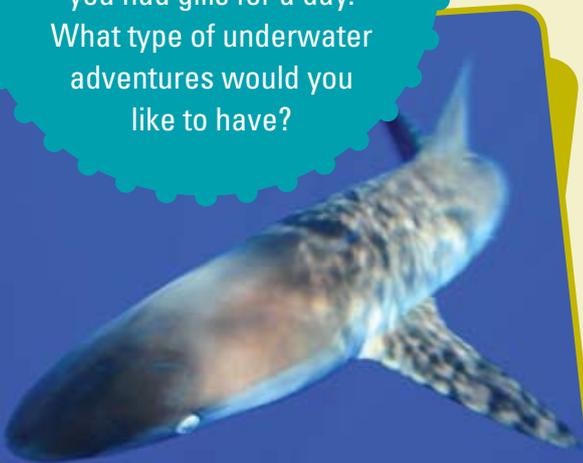
In some Asian countries, soup made with shark fins is a desirable meal. In order to get the shark fins, a person catches a shark and removes the fins, sometimes while the shark is still alive. The shark meat may be sold for food, but many times the dead or dying shark is simply thrown back into the ocean. In most cases, the shark does not survive. Why do you think people do this? What could **governments** do to enforce the law and protect sharks?

Sharks may not care for their young after birth, but they do give their **offspring** a better start than other fish do. Unborn sharks stay in the womb until they are relatively big; as a result, sharks have fewer young at once. Why do you think this is? How do you think young sharks survive?



Are you afraid of sharks? Why or why not? If an animal is scary, should it still be protected?

Sharks do not have **lungs**. They have **gills** and need to stay in the water to breathe. Imagine that you had gills for a day. What type of underwater adventures would you like to have?



Some sharks attack people. It does not happen often, but it does happen. Imagine there is an area of the ocean in which several sharks have been spotted. Create a sign warning people of the sharks. Include facts about sharks, such as the fact that they eat meat and that they don't see very well.

The whale shark is the largest living fish. It can grow up to 18 metres long and weigh over 31 tonnes. Even though it is big, it is gentle and does not hurt people. Does this fact surprise you? Why or why not? Knowing this information, do you think you would remain calm if you saw a whale shark? Explain your response.

Name _____

Turning the Tide for Sharks

A Science and non-fiction English comprehension activity for Years 3–6.

This lesson links to English: Reading – comprehension. **Science:** Animals, including humans, Living things and their habitats.

(Vocabulary in bold within this lesson may require additional class discussion).

Shark attack! Those are not the words you want to hear while swimming in an ocean. Sharks are **carnivores**. However, they mainly eat fish, including other sharks. People may fear getting bitten by a shark. But around the world, there are fewer than 80 attacks on humans each year.

The Shark's Body

Most sharks have a body shaped like a **torpedo**. This sleek shape helps the shark swim. A shark has a boneless skeleton. Sharks vary in size. The largest shark is the whale shark. It can grow up to 18 metres long and weigh over 31 tonnes! The smallest sharks can be only 15cm long and weigh only about one 28g.

Sharks are known for their fierce mouths. Inside a shark's mouth are several rows of teeth. In some sharks, new teeth grow in place of older ones every week. Sharks' teeth can be pointed, flat, or sharp like a razor.



Prowling for Prey

Sharks use their strong senses to find **prey**. They can hear low-pitched sounds in the sea. Keen vision helps a shark see in dim light. Along with sensitive hearing, seeing, and smelling, sharks can detect **electrical fields**. Fish produce electrical fields. A shark can sense the fields to find and capture prey.



Special Creatures

Sadly, some people want to catch, harm, or even kill sharks. There are few rules to protect sharks; at least 73 shark species are threatened. Some people want their skin and fins to make leather items. In some Asian countries, shark fins are used in soup. In the United States, the Shark Finning Prohibition Act of 2000 was a first step to stop shark finning. It is illegal to remove the fins from a shark and then throw the hurt shark in the ocean. To protect the future of many sharks, we need to act now!

The United Nations Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) is a treaty between 175 nations. It is designed to prevent illegal trade in endangered animals. Sharks are covered in this treaty.

Name _____

Questions



1 What is unique about a shark's body shape?

2 Name three different ways that a shark can find prey.

3 What is your opinion about shark finning?

4 Why do you think that different sharks have different-shaped teeth?

5 What is the purpose of the U.S. Shark Finning Prohibition Act of 2000?

6 Define the following terms according to the context used in the passage:

Carnivore _____

Torpedo _____

Prey _____

Keen vision _____

7 Do you think that the title of this passage is a good one? Why or why not?

8 Write three questions you have about sharks after reading this passage.

9 Write one fact about sharks that surprised you.

10 Explain why the information in this passage is important to know.

Shark Facts

A scientific activity for Year 3–6 pupils, reading and interpreting a chart.

This lesson links to Science: Animals, including humans, Living things and their habitats, Working Scientifically.

- Use the chart to take notes on the similarities and differences between sharks.
- Discuss how this information could be presented chart versus narrative article, are there any other ways?
- Children can choose a way to display their information they have gathered e.g bar or line graph, venn diagram or another visual way to present the data.
- Children can present and discuss their findings and explain why they chose to present the information this way.



TYPE OF SHARK	UNIQUE FACT	HABITAT	SIZE	PREY	KNOWN TO ATTACK HUMANS
Whale Shark	Largest of all fish	Tropical waters	Can grow up to 18 metres long	Plankton and small fish	No
Great White Shark	Most dangerous shark	Cool temperate to tropical waters	Can grow up to 6 metres long	Large animals such as sea lions, tuna, and other sharks	Yes
Basking Shark	Swims slowly on the surface	Temperate climates	Can grow up to 9 metres long	Plankton	No
Hammerhead Shark	Has a flat head that looks like a hammer	Shallow, tropical, and warm temperate waters	Can grow up to 6 metres long	Small fish, stingrays, squid, other sharks	No
Mako Shark	Swift and powerful	Most live in tropical and warm temperate waters	Can grow up to 4 metres long	Fish, sharks, squid, swordfish, and tuna	Yes, but it is rare
Thresher Shark	Uses its long tail to gather fish and stun them before eating	Subtropical climate; swim along the surface	Can grow up to 6 metres long	Fish	No
Nurse Shark	It pumps water over its gills so it doesn't have to swim all the time; it can lie still on the sea bottom	Reefs in shallow tropical and subtropical waters	Can grow up to 4 metres long	Bottom-dwelling fish, crabs, lobsters, and shrimp	No