

SHARKS

Misunderstood Animals: #1

Animal Type:

- ☐ Amphibian
- ☐ Bird
- ☒ Fish
- ☐ Invertebrate
- ☐ Mammal
- ☐ Reptile

Diet:

- ☐ Herbivore
- ☒ Carnivore
- ☒ Omnivore
- ☐ Other

Bonnethead shark eats seagrass

Habitat:

- ☒ Freshwater
- ☒ Saltwater
- ☐ Land

Riversharks (genus *Glyphis*) and bull shark live in tropical rivers

Basic stats:

Number of species: **Over 500!**

Largest: **Whale shark (18 m or 61 ft)**

Smallest: **Dwarf lantern shark (20 cm or 8 in)**

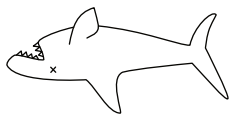
Fastest shark: **Shortfin mako (24 m/s or 54 mph)**

Fastest human swimmer: **César Cielo**

2009 world record for 50 m at 2.39 m/s or 5.3 mph.

FACT OR FICTION?

Sharks have to swim constantly, otherwise they will suffocate.



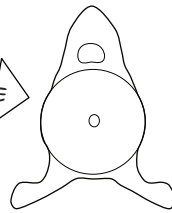
OOPS. LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE STOPPED SWIMMING.

FICTION

Only for some sharks. Many can pump water over gills while resting.

Sharks don't have any bones.

100% CARTILAGE



FACT

Sharks don't have any bones! They are cartilaginous fish.

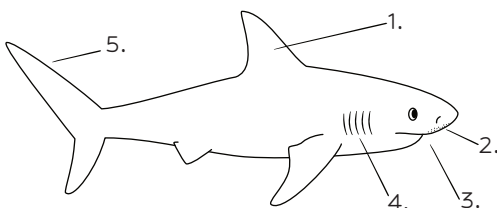
Every year, hundreds of people are bitten by sharks while swimming near the beaches of Florida.



FICTION

While Florida does have more bites than elsewhere, there are usually less than 50 unprovoked shark bites worldwide each year.

Match each feature with its corresponding function:



1 Dermal Denticles

2 Jelly-filled pores (Ampullae of Lorenzini)

3 "Conveyor-Belt" Teeth

4 5-7 External Gill Slits

5 Heterocercal tail

Streamlines the water flow and protects the shark from injury

Provides maximum oxygen uptake while swimming

Ensures a lifetime supply of sharp teeth

Detects faint electric fields for better navigation & hunting

Provides upward thrust and lift while swimming

Favorite Shark Fact:

Record any favorite fact from the lesson here. Such as the greenland shark living over 400 years, or that sharks are essential for the health of coral reefs, or that sharks predate dinosaurs.