

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## Sharks: The Mighty Predators of the Ocean

Sharks are amazing creatures that live in the ocean. They are often called the kings of the sea because they are powerful and have been around for millions of years. Let's dive into the world of sharks and learn more about these fascinating ocean predators!

### What Sharks Look Like

Sharks come in all shapes and sizes, but they usually have a sleek and streamlined body that helps them swim very fast. They are known for their sharp teeth, which they use for catching and eating their prey. Sharks can be gray, brown, or even bluish, and some have unique patterns on their skin that help them hide from other animals.

### Where Sharks Live

Sharks can be found in oceans all around the world, from the icy waters near the North and South Poles to the warm tropical seas. They live in different parts of the ocean, some near the surface, and others in the deep, dark depths. Sharks are excellent swimmers and can cover long distances in search of food.

### What Sharks Eat

Sharks are carnivores, which means they eat meat. They have a wide range of diets depending on their species. Some sharks love to eat fish, while others prefer seals, sea lions, or even smaller sharks. Some, like the giant whale shark, eat tiny creatures called plankton by filtering them from the water.

### The Amazing Senses of Sharks

Sharks have incredible senses that help them find food and navigate through the ocean. They have a great sense of smell, even better than many other animals, which helps them locate prey from far away. Their keen eyesight allows them to see well in the dark depths, and they can even sense the electrical signals produced by other animals.

### Shark Babies

Shark babies are called pups, and they can be born in various ways. Some are born alive, while others hatch from eggs. Shark moms don't take care of their babies like humans do. Instead, the pups must fend for themselves from the moment they are born.

### Conservation and Protection

Sharks are essential for the balance of life in the ocean, but they face many threats. Some people catch sharks for their fins, which are used in shark fin soup. Pollution and overfishing also harm their populations. Many organizations and countries are working hard to protect sharks and ensure their survival.

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### Reading Comprehension Questions

1. Why are sharks often called the kings of the sea?
2. What do sharks use their sharp teeth for?
3. Where can sharks be found in the ocean?
4. What do shark pups have to do after they are born?
5. Why is it important to protect sharks?