



SHARKS: MYTH VS. REALITY

Test their knowledge of sharks



GRADES 6-8

STANDARDS

- SCI.6.3.1

OBJECTIVES

- Students will be able to identify myths about sharks.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- Sharks are fish, too. They have an internal skeleton and a backbone, but their skeleton is made of cartilage, rather than ossified bone. (Your outer ear and the tip of your nose are made of cartilage).
- A cartilaginous skeleton gives the shark greater flexibility of movement.
- Sharks keep reefs healthy by preying on weak and sick animals, leaving only healthy ones to breed new generations.
- Many large sharks eat only once a month. They digest their food slowly and little is wasted.

PROCEDURE

- Have students fill out the worksheet by determining if each statement is true or false.

RECOMMENDED ASSESSMENT

- Grade worksheet for accuracy.

ANSWER KEY:

- | | | | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| 1. True | 2. False | 3. False | 4. True | 5. True | 6. False |
| 7. False | 8. False | 9. True | 10. True | 11. True | 12. False |





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Mark each statement about sharks as true or false.

Name _____

1. _____ More people are bitten by sharks than squirrels each year.
2. _____ Sharks only have 1 set of teeth. If they lose one tooth, another tooth will not grow back.
3. _____ Sharks can only smell blood from short distances.
4. _____ Some sharks can make their body 27 degrees warmer than the water around them.
5. _____ Of the hundreds of species of sharks, only a couple species have killed humans.
6. _____ No sharks are endangered as humans tend to leave them alone.
7. _____ Sharks eat 3 times a day as they digest their food very quickly.
8. _____ Most sharks eat seaweed or coral.
9. _____ Some sharks are only a few feet long as adults.
10. _____ Sharkskin is so rough that it was once used as sand paper.
11. _____ The whale shark, one of the world's largest fish, feeds on tiny plankton.
12. _____ Sharks are only found in small lakes.

