



February Homeschool Day



Inside:

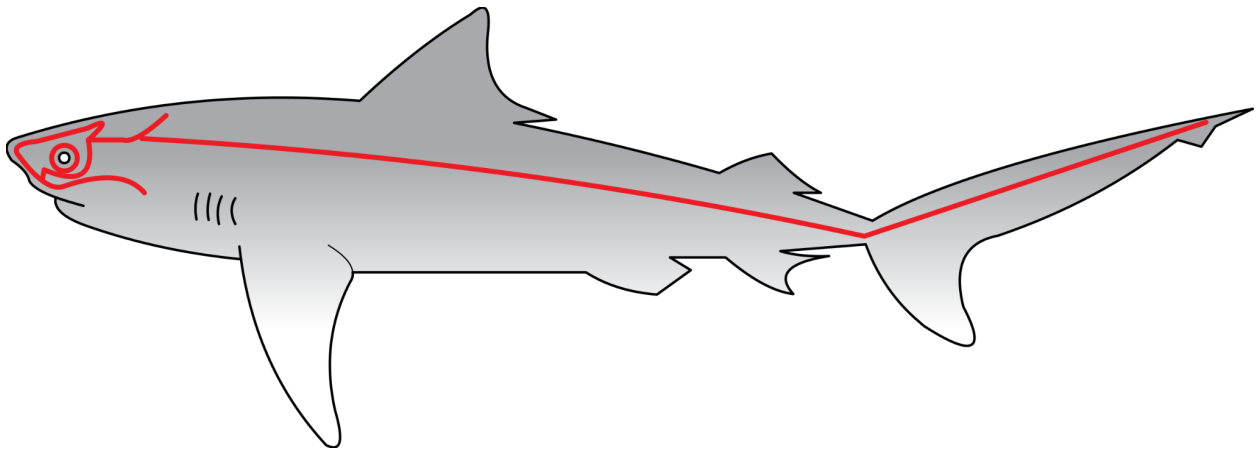
- Good Vibrations (Lateral Line Demonstration)
 - Ambassador Park Activity
- What Shark Are You?
 - Self-Guided Activity
- Shark Teeth Molds
 - Whitney Park Activity
- Animal Observation
 - Any Animal habitat

Our Animal ambassadors, Pingo and Romeo, are going to help you learn all about sharks, their senses, and how we can help them!

Good Vibrations

Lateral Line Demonstration

A shark can sense prey by detecting water movement made by fish or other swimming prey. Sharks have a special system, called a lateral line, that picks up the vibrations in the water. This strip of sensory cells runs along the sides of the body and into the head. Sharks use the lateral line to detect the erratic motions of sick or wounded prey when they are about 3 to 10 feet away.



Are sharks the only animals that have lateral lines?

Is there a sense that humans have that is equivalent to the lateral line?

How well did you do detecting vibrations from the ropes?

What Shark Are You?

Shark Personality Quiz

Answer the questions below to determine what type of shark you are!

What is your dream vacation destination?

- a. Florida
- b. Australia
- c. Bahamas
- d. Hawaii

What is your favorite seafood?

- a. Crab
- b. Octopus
- c. Salmon
- d. Shrimp

What is your favorite color?

- a. Yellow
- b. Gray
- c. Purple
- d. Blue

What is your favorite beach activity?

- a. Walking in the shallow water
- b. Swimming in the deep water
- c. Playing in the sand
- d. Sunbathing

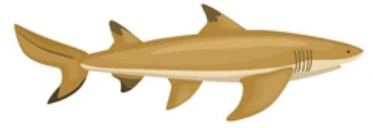
How many states have you visited?

- a. 1-10
- b. 11-20
- c. 21-40
- d. 41-50

Now, determine which letter you circled most!

If you circled the letter A the most, you're a Lemon Shark!

- The Lemon Shark is a powerful fish with a strong build. One interesting detail about these groups is that these sharks are relatively peaceful and they do not fight or attack each other. This group living habit allows them many benefits like enhanced communication, efficient hunting ventures, and better protection from predators.



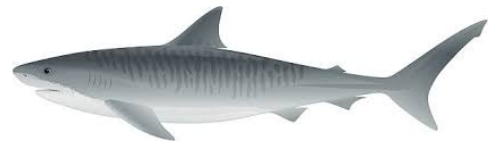
If you circled the letter B the most, you're a Great Hammerhead Shark!

- While most species of sharks are loners, the Hammerhead Sharks swim in schools during the daylight hours. These schools can have up to 100 members in them. At night time though they go to find food and they do that on their own. It is believed they spend time together during the day for protection but also that they enjoy socializing to some degree as well.



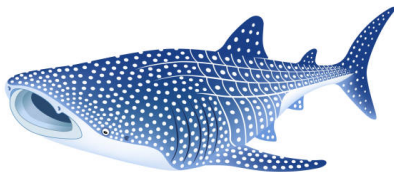
If you circled the letter C the most, you're a Tiger Shark!

- Tiger sharks are an aggressive predator and are found mostly in tropical and warm waters. They get their name from the tiger-like stripes on the body which fades away as it grows older. They also earned the nickname The Wastebasket Of The Sea because they will eat virtually anything, including human garbage and trash which floats out to sea.



If you circled the letter D the most, you're a Whale Shark!

- Whale sharks are known as "gentle giants". They are calm creatures who spend most of their time in the open ocean, alone, and they like it that way. They do share feeding grounds, and many whale sharks will converge to eat if there is a plankton bloom.



Shark Teeth Molds

Sharks continually shed their teeth throughout their entire life! Some species shed approximately 35,000 teeth over the course of their life.

Shark teeth work like a conveyor belt. When one falls out, the next one pushes forward. There are four basic types of shark teeth: dense flattened, needle-like, pointed lower with triangular upper, and non-functional. The type of tooth that a shark has depends on its diet and feeding habits.

What do you think each kind of shark tooth looks like?
Draw your ideas below!

Dense flattened	Needle-like
Pointed lower with triangular upper	Non-functional

What kind of shark tooth did you choose to mold?

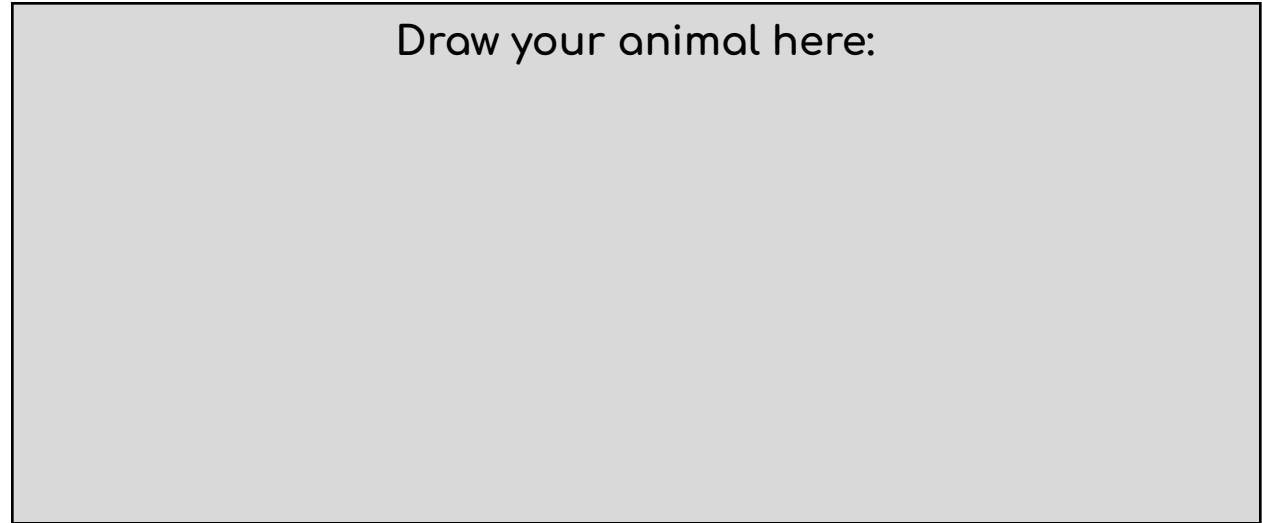
Compare your drawings to actual shark teeth. How well do yours compare?

Animal Observations

Choose one animal at Marineland on which to do a physical and behavioral observation. You may pick any animal you'd like, but you must stick with that individual, so be sure you've identified a distinguishing characteristic about it that will help you keep it in view, even if it lives with a group of other animals that look just like it.

Animal: _____

Draw your animal here:



List 5 physical characteristics/adaptations (body shape, coloration, number of limbs, etc):

What do these adaptations help the animal do? (Avoid predators, catch prey, camouflage, etc)



Observe your animal's behavior for three minutes. Fill out the following behavioral observation chart. Put a tally mark next to the behavior every time you see it. If you see any behaviors other than the ones listed, please add them in the blank space provided:

Animal: _____

Behaviors Seen	Minute 1	Minute 2	Minute 3	Total Tallies
Eating				
Chasing				
Hiding				
Playing				
Breathing				
Sleeping				

What behavior did you see your animal do the most?

What kind of conclusions can you make from your observations? (Keep in mind that your three-minute observation does not represent a full day of the animal's life.)