

# January Homeschool Day



## Inside:

- Shark Care!
  - Ambassador Park Activity
- Dolphins vs. Sharks!
  - Self-guided Activity
- Meet our Animal Care Staff!
  - Meet a Dolphin Trainer: 12:45 pm in Whitney Park
  - Meet an Aquarist: 11:45 am in Ambassador Park
- Dolphin Care!
  - Classroom Activity (meet by the Whitney Park arch 5 minutes before start time)
    - 10:15 am
    - 10:45 am
    - 12:00 pm
    - 1:00 pm
- Animal Observation
  - Any Animal habitat

Our Animal ambassadors are going to help you learn what it takes to take care of all of the amazing animals that call Marineland home!

# Shark Care 101!

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Scribe: \_\_\_\_\_

Animal Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Male or Female (circle one)

Common Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Genus Species Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for Handling: \_\_\_\_\_

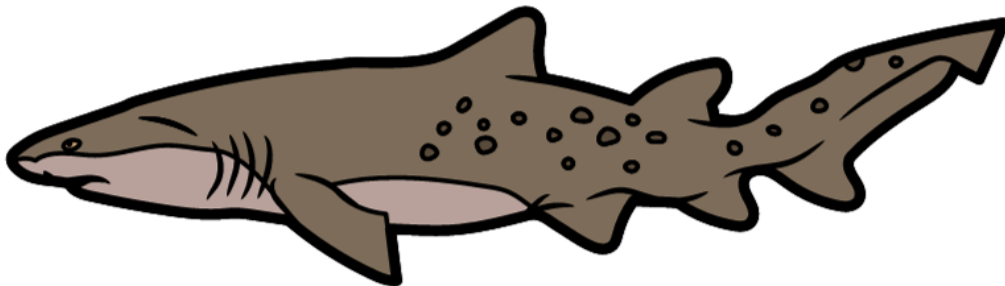
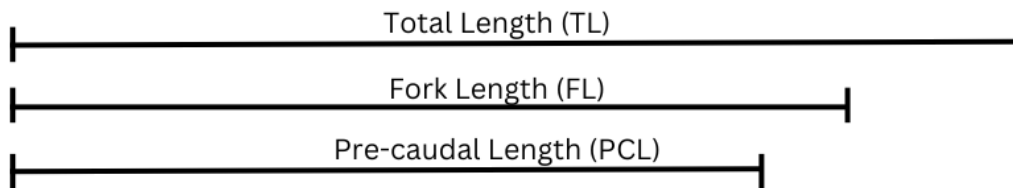
Catch Start Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Exam Start Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Release Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Exam End Time: \_\_\_\_\_

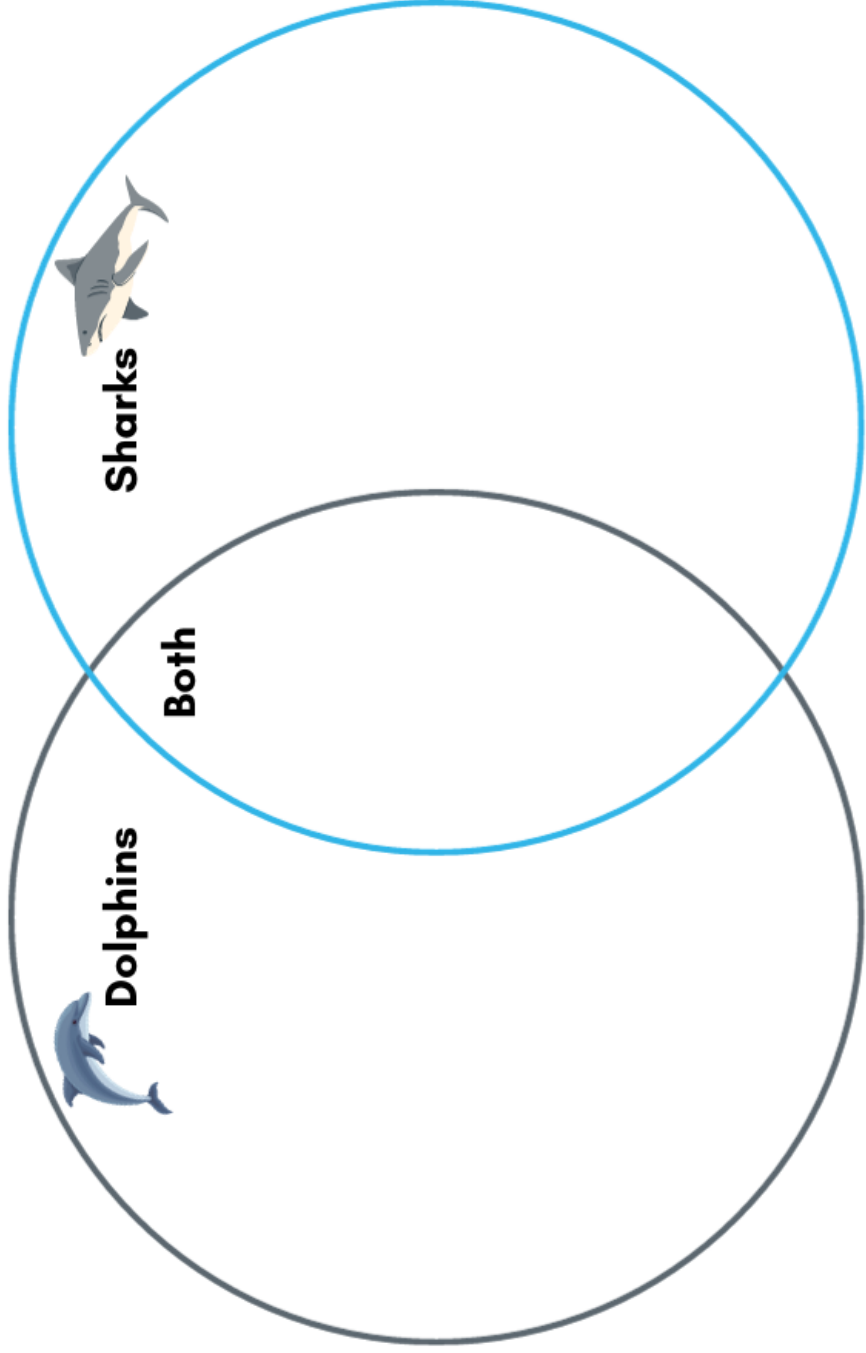
## Morphometrics:

- Total Length (TL) in inches: \_\_\_\_\_
- Fork Length (FL) in inches: \_\_\_\_\_
- Pre-caudal Length (PCL) in inches: \_\_\_\_\_
- Girth in inches: \_\_\_\_\_ Girth squared: \_\_\_\_\_
- Animal weight in lbs= (girth squared x total length) ÷ 800

\_\_\_\_\_



# Dolphins vs. Sharks!



- |                    |              |                    |               |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Smooth skin        | Has fins     | Mammal             | Apex predator |
| Has gills          | Has flippers | Breathes air       | Fish          |
| Lives in the water | Rough scales | Has countershading | Replace teeth |



# Dolphin Care 101!

What are some things that you think are included in dolphin care?

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Dolphin's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Step 1: Sort the fish! Our dolphins only get the best-looking fish to eat! Sort out the fish that may have missing eyes, fins, or cuts!

Step 2: Once step 1 is complete, sort the fish by type! Each dolphin gets a certain amount of each type of fish.

Approximate Dolphin Weight: \_\_\_\_\_ lbs x 0.45 = \_\_\_\_\_ kg  
Approximate Dolphin Weight: \_\_\_\_\_ kg x 0.04 = \_\_\_\_\_ kg of fish needed

What types of fish do you think our dolphins eat?

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Approximate amount of fish \_\_\_\_\_ gets each day:

Fish Types:

- \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_ kg = \_\_\_\_\_ fish
- \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_ kg = \_\_\_\_\_ fish
- \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_ kg = \_\_\_\_\_ fish
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Do you think all the fish here are for \_\_\_\_\_?

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Did you think this much work went into feeding our dolphins?

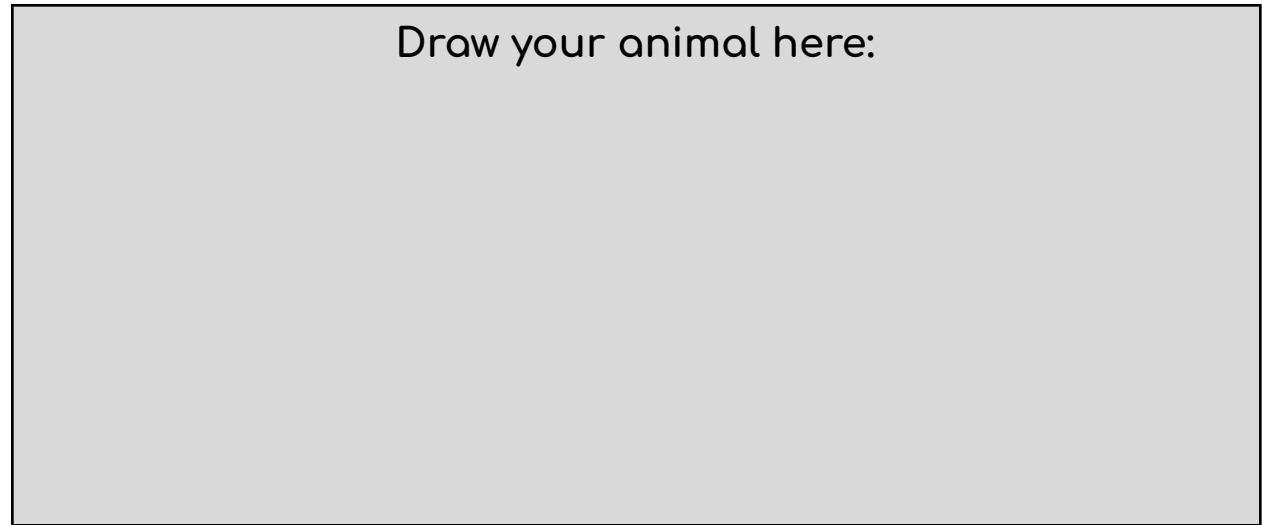
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# Animal Observations

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.)