

Shark Fact or Fiction?

Background:

This is a fun classroom activity based on the basic biology of sharks. This goes well with the enclosed Project Shark Awareness PowerPoint and should be used in conjunction with the presentation.

Materials:

Shark Fact of Fiction activity sheet and answer key for the educator.

Classroom Activity:

- Pass out the “Shark Fact or Fiction” handout to students.
- Have the students answer each statement with “Fact” or “Fiction.”
- Discuss the correct answers with the students while also asking why they answered the way they did – based of public perception or science?





SHARK FACT OR FICTION?!

- Sharks have bony skeletons.
- Some sharks live over 100 years.
- Shark skin is as smooth as silk.
- Sharks sleep many hours each day.
 - Sharks have external ears.
- The fastest shark is the white shark.
- Whale sharks feed on large fishes.
- A baby shark is referred to as a pup.
- Sharks are found only in saltwater.
 - Most sharks are hot-blooded.
- The chance of being attacked by a shark is very high.
 - Shark finning is legal in U.S. territorial waters.
 - Most sharks are harmful to humans.
 - Sharks are vulnerable to overfishing.



SHARK FACT OR FICTION?!

- **Sharks have bony skeletons. FICTION**
- **Some sharks live over 100 years. FACT**
- **Shark skin is as smooth as silk. FICTION**
- **Sharks sleep many hours each day. FICTION**
 - **Sharks have external ears. FICTION**
- **The fastest shark is the white shark. FICTION**
- **Whale sharks feed on large fishes. FICTION**
- **A baby shark is referred to as a pup. FACT**
- **Sharks are found only in saltwater. FICTION**
 - **Most sharks are hot-blooded. FICTION**
- **The chance of being attacked by a shark is very high. FICTION**
 - **Shark finning is legal in U.S. territorial waters. FICTION**
 - **Most sharks are harmful to humans. FICTION**
 - **Sharks are vulnerable to overfishing. FACT**