

SHARKS

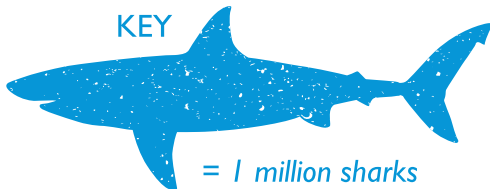
FEARSOME OR FASCINATING?

Are sharks really the man-eating monsters we make them out to be? Or are they simply misunderstood?

An average of 4 fatal shark attacks occur worldwide each year.

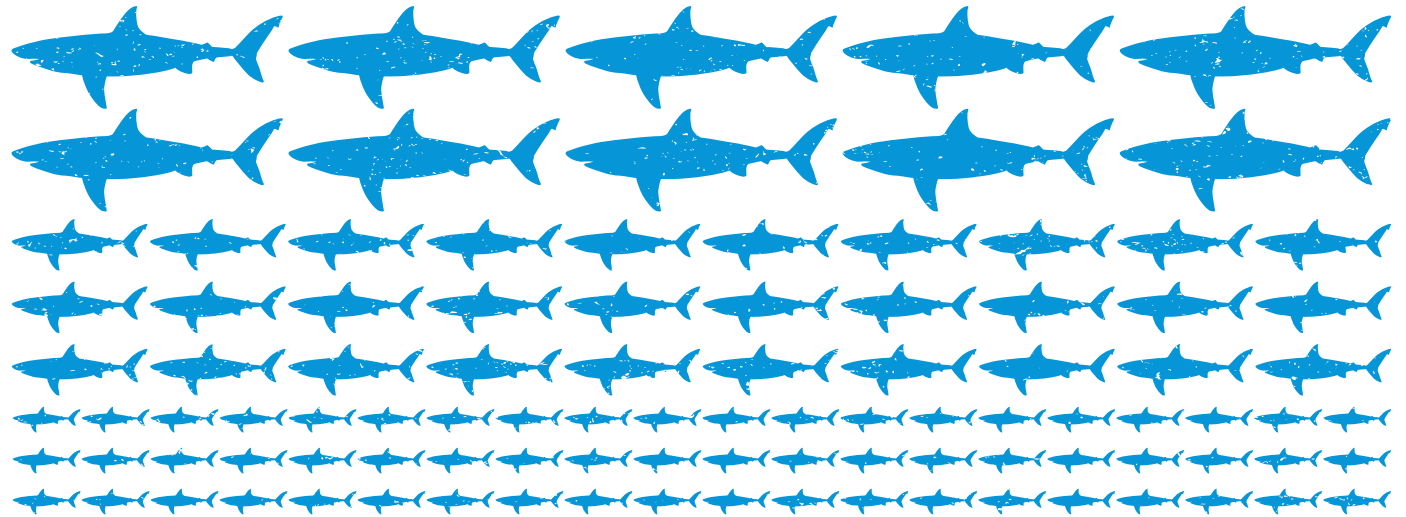


KEY



= 1 million sharks

It's estimated that humans kill at least 100 million sharks a year. That's roughly 11 000 per hour!



IT'S TIME TO STOP BEING AFRAID OF SHARKS AND START BEING AFRAID FOR THEM

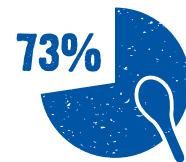
Sharks are slow-growing and late-maturing. They give birth to few young, making them extremely vulnerable to overexploitation.



Decline in shark populations in the last 20 years.



At this rate, sharks will be extinct in the next 10 to 20 years.

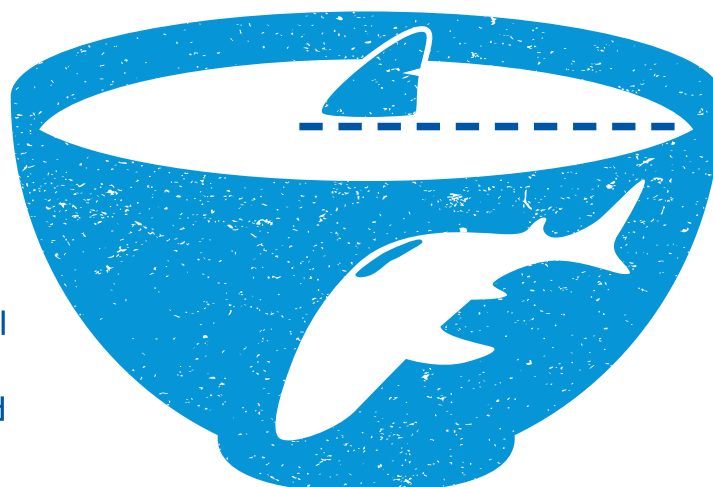


Percentage of sharks killed for shark fin soup.

SHARKS BELONG IN THE OCEAN, NOT ON THE MENU!

STATUS SOUP

Shark fin soup is a traditional Chinese meal served as a demonstration of wealth and respect to impress guests.



5% USED

95 % WASTED

CRUEL AND WASTEFUL

The fins are often cut from the shark while it is still alive. Its body is thrown back into the sea where it dies a slow and cruel death.

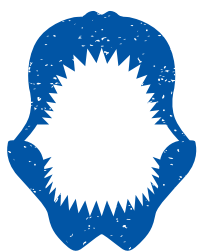
8000 TONS



Over 8,000 tons of shark fins are processed each year.

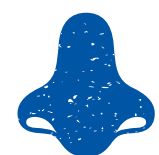
SHARKS ARE JAWSOME!

Sharks' teeth grow in rows like a conveyor belt. As teeth are worn down or fall out, new ones move forward to replace them. A shark can lose up to 30 000 teeth in a lifetime.



ALL EYES

With eyes on opposite sides of their heads, sharks can see almost 360 degrees.

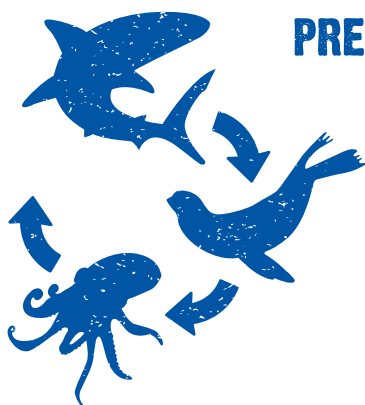


SWIMMING NOSES

Sharks have a highly developed sense of smell. They can detect one drop of blood in a million drops of water.

PREDATORS WITH PURPOSE

Sharks are apex predators. They are often at the top of the food chain and play a vital role in keeping the ecosystem healthy and balanced. The extinction of sharks would have devastating effects on the oceans.



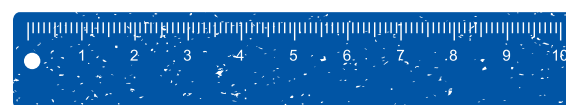
OLDER THAN THE DINOSAURS

There is evidence to suggest that sharks have been on Earth for more than 420 million years.



GENTLE GIANTS

Whale sharks are the biggest fish in the sea, reaching 12 metres in length. Despite their size, their teeth are no bigger than human baby teeth. They feed on plankton.

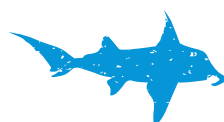


Their skin can be up to 10 centimetres thick!

SHARKS ON DISPLAY AT THE AQUARIUM



RAGGED-TOOTH SHARK



ST JOSEPH SHARK



SHYSHARK



Two Oceans **AQUARIUM**

CAPE TOWN • SOUTH AFRICA

www.aquarium.co.za