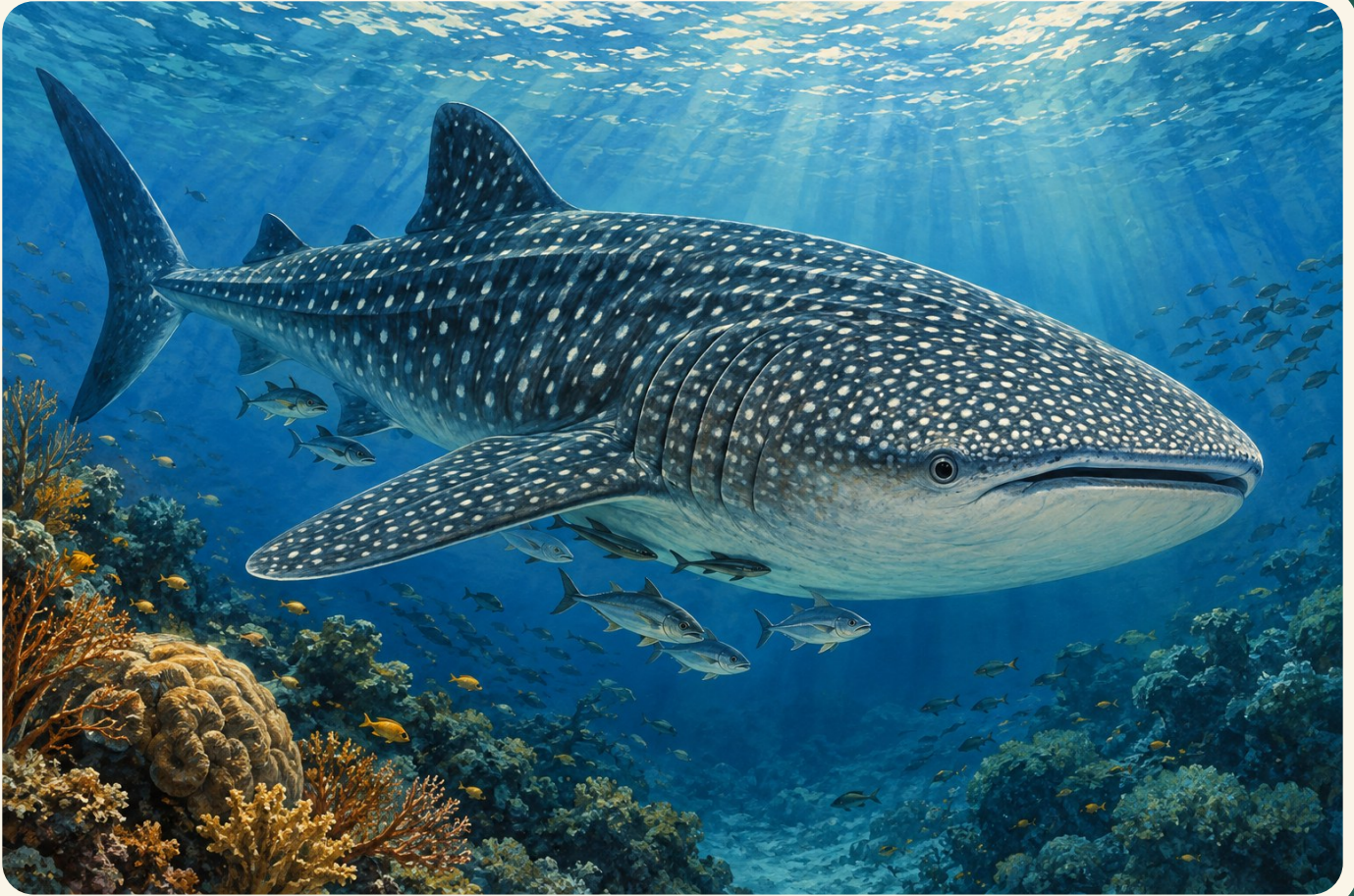




NO-PREP SUB PLAN • 60 TO 90 MINUTES • GRADES 4–9

Sharks: Hunters or Hunted?



Two reading levels

Version A (easier) and Version B (harder): same facts, same questions

Ready for the sub

A one-page plan, activities in order, and an answer key

Orthos Literacy • Sub Plans for Struggling Readers



For the Substitute

Everything is ready. No teaching needed.

Do the Must Do pages in order. The answer key is at the back: keep it for yourself.

MUST DO · ABOUT 60 MINUTES

- 1 Fact or Myth? (page 7)** 5 min
 Before reading, students circle their guesses in the Before I Read column only.
- 2 Read the article (pages 3–4 or 5–6)** 15–20 min
 Version A is easier and Version B is harder. Same facts, same questions. If the teacher did not mark who gets which, let students choose; anyone may switch to A. Read the title and Tricky Words out loud together, then students read it two times, quietly or with a partner.
- 3 Fact or Myth? again** 5 min
 Now students fill in the After I Read column and fix one myth.
- 4 Check Your Reading (page 8)** 10 min
 Students may look back at the article. That is not cheating!
- 5 Sort the Facts + Think About It (pages 9–10)** 15 min
 Students sort the facts first, then use them to answer the questions.
- 6 Break It Apart (page 11)** 10 min
 Read each word part by part, then the whole word.

IF THERE IS TIME · IN ANY ORDER

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Tic-Tac-Read (page 12)
<i>a partner reading game</i> | ☐ Crossword (page 13)
<i>every answer is in the article</i> |
| ☐ A Note to the Beach (page 14)
<i>short writing</i> | ☐ Invent a Shark (page 15)
<i>design and draw</i> |
| ☐ Maze to the Middle (page 16)
<i>a hard maze, quiet work</i> | ☐ Color by Number (page 17)
<i>calm finish to the period</i> |

Teacher: before you are out

Print one article per student (Version A, pages 3–4, or Version B, pages 5–6) plus 3–5 extra copies of Version A. Print pages 7–11 for everyone, and pages 12–17 for extra time. Leave this page and the answer key (pages 18–20) for the sub. Collect everything at the end of class.



Sharks: Hunters or Hunted?

Name _____

Date _____

TRICKY WORDS ocean · million · blood · soup

Sharks have lived in the sea for more than 400 million years. They were here before the dinosaurs. They were here before trees!

There are more than 500 kinds of sharks. The biggest is the whale shark. It can grow as long as a school bus, but it will not hurt you. It eats tiny shrimp, fish eggs, and small fish. The smallest shark could fit in your hand.

A shark has no bones. Its skeleton is made of the same stuff as the tip of your nose. And a shark has rows and rows of teeth. When a tooth falls out, a new one moves up to take its place. A shark can go through thousands of teeth in its life.

Sharks are expert hunters. A shark can smell a tiny bit of blood from far away. It can feel a fish swimming in the water. It can even sense a fish that is hiding under the sand.

Turn the page.

Sharks: Hunters or Hunted? (continued)



So do you need to be afraid? In most years, sharks bite fewer than	171
100 people in the world. Just a few of them die. You are more likely	185
to be hit by lightning.	190
Why do sharks bite people at all? Scientists think it is often a mix-up.	205
From below, a surfer on a board can look like a seal. The shark bites,	220
then often swims off. People are not what it wants to eat.	232
Now flip it. Each year, people kill about 80 million sharks. Some get	244
trapped in fishing nets. Some are killed just for their fins, which are	257
sold to make soup. Some kinds of sharks may soon be gone for good.	271
That is bad news for the ocean. Sharks eat sick and weak fish. They	285
also keep other sea animals from getting too many. That keeps sea	297
life strong. With no sharks, the ocean could get out of whack.	309
So who has more to fear: people or sharks?	318

I read it

☐

one time

☐

two times

318 words



Sharks: Hunters or Hunted?

Name _____

Date _____

TRICKY WORDS ocean · million · blood · soup · cartilage

Sharks have lived in the ocean for more than 400 million years. That means they were around before the dinosaurs, and even before the first trees grew on land.

Scientists have named more than 500 kinds of sharks, and they come in every size. The biggest fish on the planet is the whale shark, which can grow as long as a school bus. In spite of its size, it is gentle. It eats tiny shrimp, fish eggs, and small fish that it strains from the water. At the other end, the smallest shark is about as long as a pencil.

A shark has no bones. Its skeleton is made of cartilage, the same bendable stuff that is in the tip of your nose. A shark also has rows and rows of teeth. When a tooth falls out, a new one moves forward to replace it, so a shark can go through thousands of teeth in its lifetime. One kind, the Greenland shark, may live for more than 250 years.

Sharks are expert hunters with powerful senses. A shark can smell a tiny amount of blood from far away. It can feel the movement of a fish swimming nearby. It can even detect a fish that is hiding under the sand.

Turn the page.

Sharks: Hunters or Hunted? (continued)



So do people need to fear sharks? In a typical year, sharks bite fewer	221
than 100 people in the entire world, and only a handful of those	233
people die. You are more likely to be struck by lightning.	244
Why do sharks bite people at all? Scientists think many bites are	256
simply mistakes. From below, a surfer on a board can look a lot like a	271
seal. The shark bites, may realize its mistake, and often swims off.	283
People are not what sharks hunt.	289
Now look at it from the other direction. Each year, people kill about	302
80 million sharks. Some are trapped in fishing nets by accident.	312
Others are killed just for their fins, which are sold to make soup.	325
Some kinds of sharks are now at risk of vanishing forever.	336
That is a serious problem for the ocean. Sharks hunt sick and weak	349
animals, and they keep the numbers of other animals in balance.	360
That helps keep ocean life strong. Without sharks, the ocean system	371
could fall out of balance.	376
So who has more to fear: people from sharks, or sharks from people?	389

I read it

☐

one time

☐

two times

389 words



Fact or Myth?

Name _____

Date _____



Before reading, circle Fact or Myth. After reading, circle again.

	Before I read		After I read	
1 Sharks were around before the dinosaurs.	Fact	Myth	Fact	Myth
2 The biggest shark hunts people.	Fact	Myth	Fact	Myth
3 A shark has bones, just like you.	Fact	Myth	Fact	Myth
4 When a shark's tooth falls out, a new one moves up.	Fact	Myth	Fact	Myth
5 Sharks bite thousands of people every year.	Fact	Myth	Fact	Myth
6 You are more likely to be hit by lightning than bitten by a shark.	Fact	Myth	Fact	Myth
7 Most sharks that bite people want to eat them.	Fact	Myth	Fact	Myth
8 People kill millions of sharks each year.	Fact	Myth	Fact	Myth



Pick a myth. Write it so it is true.



Check Your Reading

Name _____

Date _____

☐ Circle the best answer. You can look back at the article.

1 How long have sharks lived in the sea?

- (A) 400 years (B) 4,000 years
(C) more than 400 million years (D) since the last dinosaurs died

2 What does the whale shark eat?

- (A) seals (B) people
(C) tiny shrimp, fish eggs, and small fish (D) other sharks

3 What happens when a shark's tooth falls out?

- (A) The shark stops eating.
(B) A new tooth moves up to take its place.
(C) The shark has a gap for the rest of its life.
(D) The tooth grows back in a year.

4 In most years, how many people do sharks bite in the world?

- (A) fewer than 100 (B) about 1,000
(C) about 10,000 (D) more than a million

5 Why do scientists think a shark might bite a surfer?

- (A) Sharks like to hunt people.
(B) From below, a surfer on a board can look like a seal.
(C) Surfers make a lot of noise.
(D) The board smells like fish.

6 About how many sharks do people kill each year?

- (A) 100 (B) 10,000
(C) 1 million (D) about 80 million



Hunters or Hunted?

Name _____

Date _____



Write each fact's number in the box where it fits.

1 Sharks can smell blood from far away.

2 People kill about 80 million sharks each year.

3 A shark has rows and rows of teeth.

4 Some sharks are killed just for their fins.

5 A shark can sense a fish hiding under the sand.

6 Some kinds of sharks may soon be gone for good.

7 Sharks are expert hunters.

8 Lots of sharks get trapped in fishing nets.

Sharks are scary

1 (example)

People are scarier



Which side has the stronger facts?

Circle one:

Sharks are scary

People are scarier



Think About It

Name _____

Date _____



Answer each one. Use the article.

7 A shark has no bones. What is its skeleton made of?

8 Why is it bad for the ocean if sharks die out? Use the article.

9 Who has more to fear, people or sharks? Give two facts from the article.



Break It Apart

Name _____

Date _____



Read each part. Then write the full word.

hun · ters

sur · fer

ex · pert

light · ning

thou · sands

small · est

big · gest

di · no · saurs

Finish the sentence



Write a word from the boxes at the top.

- 1 Sharks were in the sea before the _____.
- 2 A shark can go through _____ of teeth.
- 3 You are more likely to be hit by _____.
- 4 From below, a _____ on a board can look like a seal.



Tic-Tac-Read



1. Take turns. Read a word out loud.
2. Read it right? Mark it X or O.
3. Three in a row wins.

No partner? Read each word and check it off.

Board 1

sharks	teeth	hunters	sand	fins
surfer	board	seal	whale	smell
nose	expert	trapped	lightning	thousands
biggest	smallest	skeleton	dinosaurs	fishing
swimming	strong	shrimp	hiding	world

Board 2

shrimp	strong	swimming	fishing	dinosaurs
skeleton	smallest	biggest	thousands	lightning
trapped	expert	nose	smell	whale
seal	board	surfer	fins	sand
hunters	teeth	sharks	world	hiding



Crossword

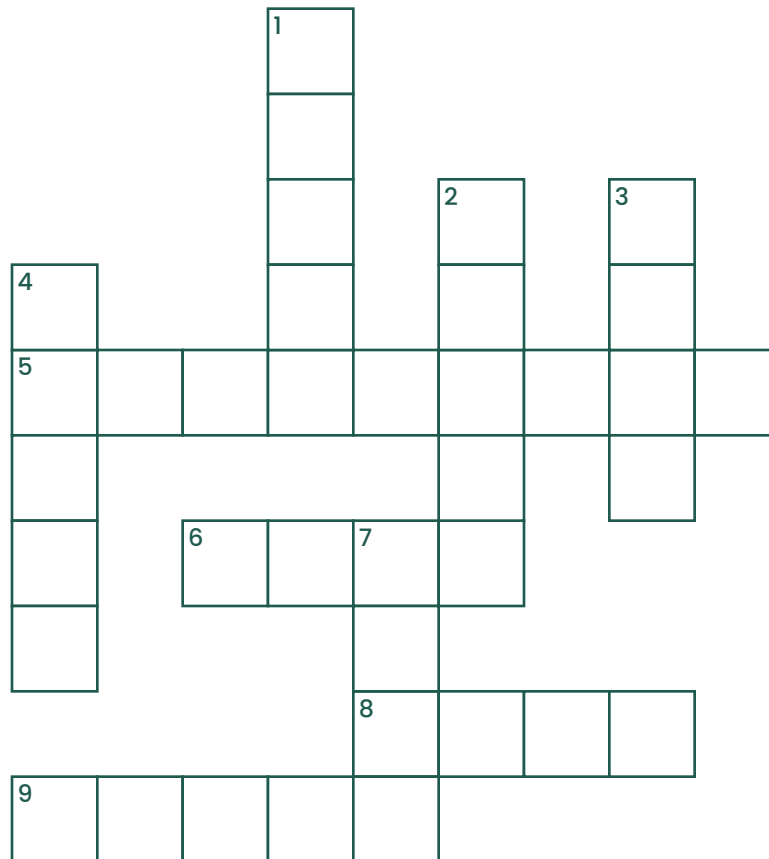
Name _____

Date _____



Read each clue. Write one letter in each box.

All the answers are in the article.



Across

- 5** You are more likely to be hit by this than bitten by a shark.
- 6** Some sharks are killed just for these.
- 8** From below, a surfer can look like this animal.
- 9** The biggest shark is the _____ shark.

Down

- 1** A shark has rows and rows of these.
- 2** A shark has no _____.
- 3** A shark can sense a fish hiding under the _____.
- 4** A shark can smell a tiny bit of this from far away.
- 7** A shark's skeleton is made of the same stuff as the tip of your _____.



A Note to the Beach

Name _____

Date _____

A shark was spotted near a beach, and people are scared to swim.



Write a note to the swimmers. Tell them the facts about sharks.

YOU CAN START WITH

Do not panic. Sharks...

You are more likely to...

Sharks bite people because...

The real problem is...

Dear people at the beach,

From, _____



Invent a Shark

Name _____

Date _____

Scientists find new kinds of sharks every year.

Invent a new shark. Draw it. Then fill in each line.

Draw your shark here.

Name of your shark _____

How long is it? _____

Where does it live? _____

What does it eat? _____

Its super sense _____

Would you swim with it? Why or why not? _____



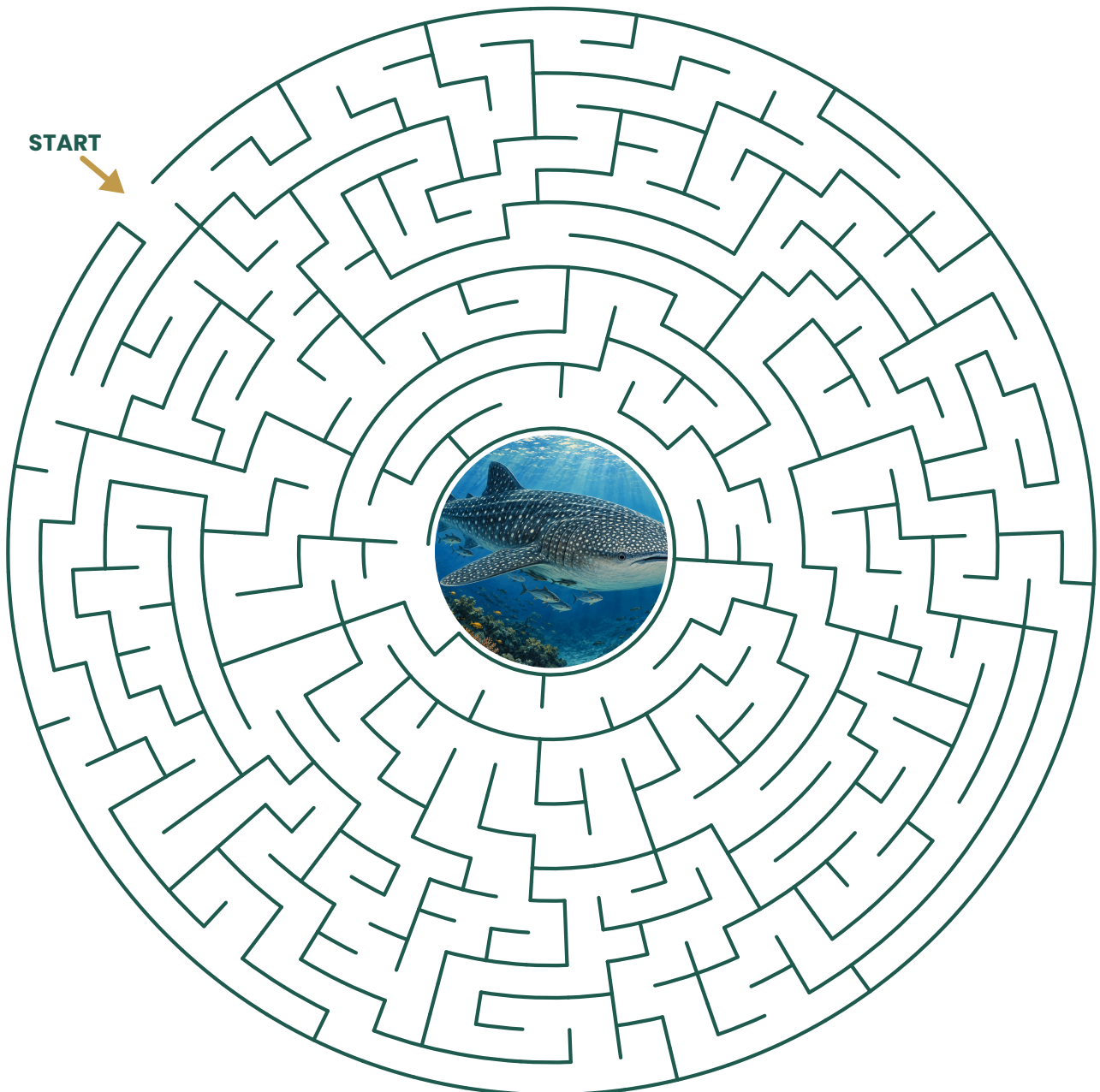
Maze to the Middle

Name _____

Date _____



Start at the arrow. Find the path to the picture in the middle.





Color by Number

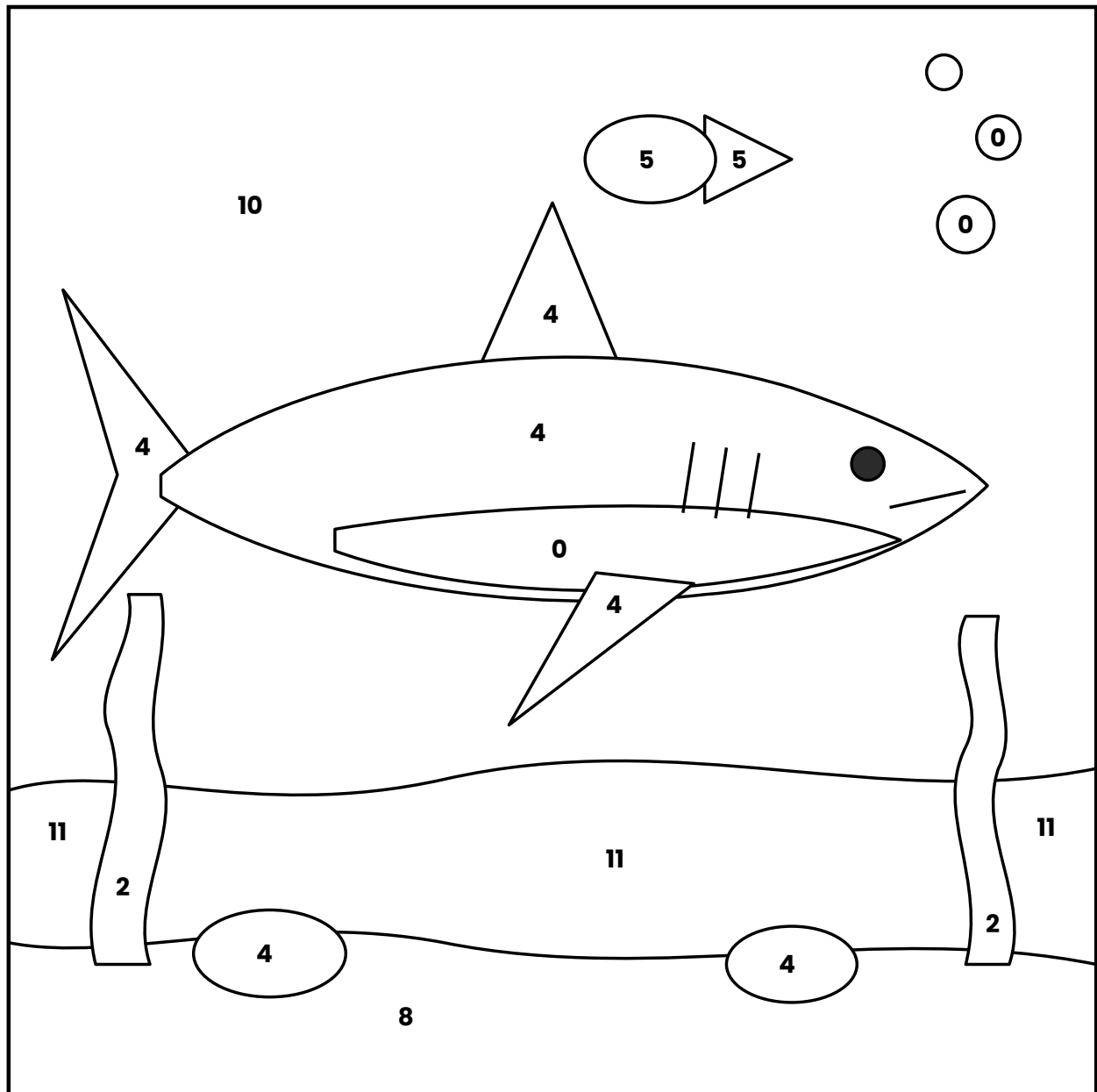
Name _____

Date _____

○ Color each space to match its number.

☐ 0 white
 ☐ 2 green
 ☐ 4 gray
 ☐ 5 yellow
 ☐ 8 tan

☐ 10 light blue
 ☐ 11 dark blue





Answer Key

Fact or Myth?

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 1. Fact | 5. Myth |
| 2. Myth | 6. Fact |
| 3. Myth | 7. Myth |
| 4. Fact | 8. Fact |

Check Your Reading

1. C more than 400 million years
2. C tiny shrimp, fish eggs, and small fish
3. B A new tooth moves up to take its place.
4. A fewer than 100
5. B From below, a surfer on a board can look like a seal.
6. D about 80 million

Hunters or Hunted?

Sharks are scary: 1, 3, 5, 7

People are scarier: 2, 4, 6, 8

Last question: answers will vary. Look for a reason from the article.

Think About It

7. The same stuff as the tip of your nose (cartilage).
8. Sharks eat sick and weak fish and keep the numbers of other sea animals in balance. Without sharks, the ocean could get out of whack (out of balance). Accept either wording.
9. Answers will vary. Strong answers use two facts, such as: sharks bite fewer than 100 people a year and only a few die, but people kill about 80 million sharks a year, and some kinds may soon be gone.



Answer Key, continued

Break It Apart

hunters · surfer · expert · lightning · thousands · smallest · biggest · dinosaurs

1. dinosaurs
2. thousands
3. lightning
4. surfer

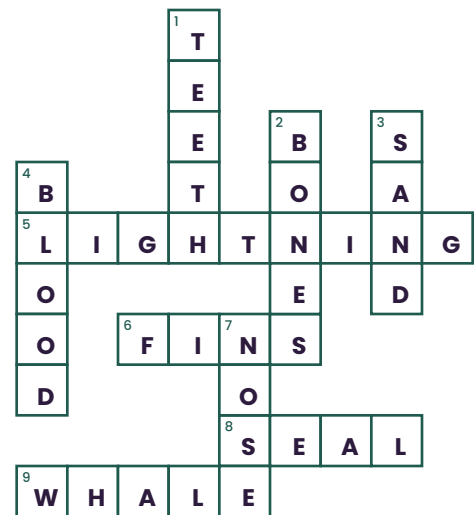
Crossword

Across

5 lightning, 6 fins, 8 seal, 9 whale

Down

1 teeth, 2 bones, 3 sand, 4 blood, 7 nose



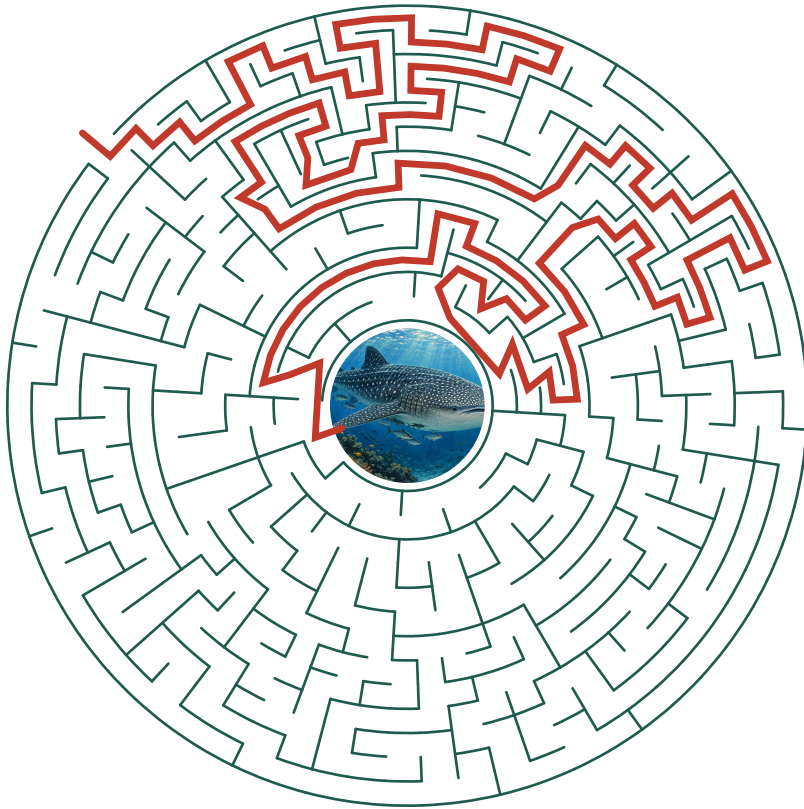
Everything else

Tic-Tac-Read, A Note to the Beach and Invent a Shark have no set answers. For the writing, look for at least two facts from the article.



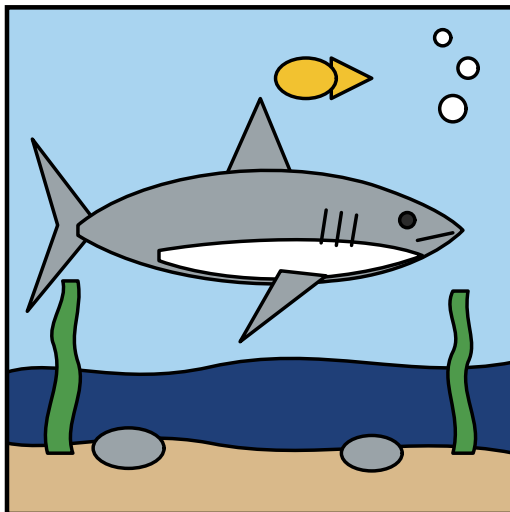
Answer Key: Puzzles

Maze to the Middle



The red line is the only path from START to the middle.

Color by Number



Colors may vary a little. Look for each space colored to its number.



Thank you!

Every Orthos sub plan comes in two versions of the same article, so the whole class can work on the same topic at the reading level each student needs. Version A is checked word by word through Orthos Level 5 (vowel teams), and Version B through Level 6 (prefixes, suffixes and roots). The only exceptions are the few Tricky Words at the top of each article.

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