

Shark Bingo

(Pre-visit)

Grade Level: 2nd-5th

Purpose: To have students learn what sharks eat and how their diet is varied.

Materials:

- Bingo sheets
- Crayons/stamps, paper, plastic pieces to mark their sheet
- Pictures of different animals that sharks eat

Teacher Background Information:

Often children have a fear of sharks related to the idea that sharks will eat people. In fact, most sharks will avoid people if possible and shark attacks are rare. The recent increase in shark attacks is because more people are in the water not that sharks are hunting people. Shark diets are actually very varied and their diets differ depending on the species of shark being considered. Sharks will eat marine mammals, sea turtles, fish, other sharks, plankton (eaten by the whale shark), etc. Sharks need to eat only 1-2 % of their body weight to stay healthy and can go several weeks without eating.

Procedure:

- 1) Give each student a bingo sheet and their markers.
- 2) Play the game just like BINGO by calling a letter and an animal.
- 3) Students can mark sideways, down, across and diagonal. Whichever student fills the line first yells “Shark” and has to tell what animals they marked.

Discussion Questions:

- 1) What does the biggest fish in the world, the whale shark eat?
- 2) Why are humans not on the shark’s menu?

Shark Bingo Sheet:

S	H	A	R	K
CRABS	FISH	SEALS	PLANKTON	SHRIMP
EELS	SQUID	LOBSTERS	SHARKS	GREEN SEA TURTLE
WHALES	PEGUIN	FREE	OCTOPUS	CLAMS
RAYS	WHELKS	DOLPHINS	SKATES	TRASH
LOGGERHEAD SEA TURTLE	CONCHS	FISH HOOKS	HAWKSBILL S. TURTLE	MUSSELS

