Shark Attacks
Unit Study

Subjects:
Reading, History, Geography,
Math, Science, Writing
Thank you for downloading our Shark Attacks Unit Study! It was created to be used with the books *I Survived the Shark Attacks of 1916*. *Magic Tree House Shadow of the Shark* can also be a companion novel as well as any other shark books you may find. Here is what is included in the study:

Pages 3-7: **Notebooking Pages**: Research the four sharks most likely to attack humans. National Geographic and Wikipedia are good places to start. One additional page to research any shark you would like.

Pages 8-11: **Facts about the Ancient Mayans**: Notetaking sheets with answer key to be used with *Magic Tree House* book.

Pages 12-16: **Graphing Shark Attacks**: Use the data about fatal shark attacks in the US since 2000 to make graphs and answer questions.

Pages 17-18: **Shark Attack Following Directions**: Follow directions to work with a map to discover where some shark attacks have taken place.

Pages 19-21: **Coral Reef Following Directions**: A following direction activity to learn more about sharks' habitats.

Page 22: **Compare and Contrast**: Sharks with other marine animals.

Pages 23: **Shark Anatomy**: Label the parts of a shark.

Page 24: **Creative Writing Prompt**: Shark Attack!!

Also refer to our post: *Shark Attacks FREE Unit Study* for:
1. Video about what attracts sharks to humans.
2. A video about waves in the ocean.
3. Drawing videos to create your own shark pictures.
4. Video about how to do first aid on someone who is bleeding.

You May Also Like:

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Bull Shark

Scientific Name: ____________________________

Diet: _______________________________________
___________________________________________
___________________________________________

Lifespan: _________________________________

Length and Weight: _________________________

Where they are found: _____________________
___________________________________________
___________________________________________
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Characteristics: ___________________________
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Reproduction: _____________________________
___________________________________________
___________________________________________

Threats to Survival: _______________________
___________________________________________

Name: ____________________________ ©2019 Randi Smith www.peanutbutterfishlessons.com
Tiger Shark

Scientific Name:

Diet:

Lifespan:

Length and Weight:

Where they are found:

Characteristics:

Reproduction:

Threats to Survival:

Name: ___________________
# Hammerhead Shark

**Scientific Name:**

**Diet:**
- ........................................................
- ........................................................
- ........................................................
- ........................................................

**Lifespan:**

**Length and Weight:**

**Where they are found:**
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**Characteristics:**
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**Threats to Survival:**
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**Name:**  
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**Photo Credit:** Suneko
Length and Weight: _______________________________________________________________________

Where they are found: __________________________________________________________________
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Characteristics: ______________________________________________________________________
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Threats to Survival: __________________________________________________________________
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Name: _______________________________________________________________________________
Ancient Mayan Civilization

When did the Ancient Mayan civilization exist?
____________________________________________________

Color in the area on the map where it existed:

What were some of the traditions in their culture?
____________________________________________________
____________________________________________________
____________________________________________________

What were the clothes like?
____________________________________________________
____________________________________________________
____________________________________________________

What kind of weapons did Ancient Mayans have?:
____________________________________________________
____________________________________________________
____________________________________________________

Name: ___________________
Ancient Mayan Civilization (cont.)

What were some foods they ate?
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

What was some of the knowledge they had?:
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
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Who was a famous Ancient Mayan ruler?
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
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Draw a picture of one of their temples:

Name: ___________________
When did the Ancient Mayan civilization exist?
Approximately 2000 BC to 900 AD

Color in the area on the map where it existed:

What were some of the traditions in their culture?
Ceremonial dance with costumes and art work including murals, stone carvings, clay figures. They believed in hundreds of gods.

What were the clothes like?
Women wore colorful dresses and large jewelry. Men wore loincloths and feathered robes.

What kind of weapons did Ancient Mayans have?:
Spears, bows and arrows, darts, and knives.
What were some foods they ate? Corn, beans, squash, avocados, tomatoes, peppers, pineapple and other fruit.

What was some of the knowledge they had?:
They had their own calendar and used picture writing. They created symbols for numbers. They had some understanding of astronomy. They designed buildings that still stand today.

Who was a famous Ancient Mayan ruler?
Palak the Great of the city of Palenque, 603-683 CE (AD)
# Fatal Shark Attacks in the United States Since 2000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Type of Shark</th>
<th>State</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 30, 2000</td>
<td>Bull Shark</td>
<td>Florida</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 1, 2001</td>
<td>Bull Shark</td>
<td>Virginia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 3, 2001</td>
<td>Tiger Shark</td>
<td>North Carolina</td>
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<td>September 16, 2001</td>
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<td>Florida</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 19, 2003</td>
<td>Great White Shark</td>
<td>California</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 4, 2004</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>Hawaii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 7, 2004</td>
<td>Tiger Shark</td>
<td>Hawaii</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 15, 2004</td>
<td>Great White Shark</td>
<td>California</td>
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<td>June 25, 2005</td>
<td>Bull Shark</td>
<td>Florida</td>
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<td>May 4, 2007</td>
<td>Bull Shark</td>
<td>Texas</td>
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<td>April 25, 2008</td>
<td>Great White Shark</td>
<td>California</td>
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<td>September 12, 2009</td>
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<td>North Carolina</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 3, 2010</td>
<td>Bull Shark</td>
<td>Florida</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 22, 2010</td>
<td>Great White Shark</td>
<td>California</td>
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<td>October 23, 2012</td>
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<td>August 14, 2013</td>
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<td>December 2, 2013</td>
<td>Tiger Shark</td>
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<td>April 29, 2015</td>
<td>Tiger Shark</td>
<td>Hawaii</td>
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<td>September 15, 2018</td>
<td>Great White Shark</td>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 25, 2019</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>Hawaii</td>
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</table>
Fatal Shark Attacks Since 2000
by State

Use the data about shark attacks from the previous page to fill in the states where attacks have occurred across the bottom row. Then, starting at the bottom, fill in a rectangle for each attack in that state. Then use your graph to answer the questions on page 15.

| 15 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 14 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 13 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 12 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 11 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 10 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 9  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 8  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 7  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 6  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 5  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 4  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 3  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 2  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 1  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
Fatal Shark Attacks Since 2000
by Shark

Use the data about shark attacks to fill in the types of sharks that committed the attacks across the bottom row. Then, starting at the bottom, fill in a rectangle for each attack by that type of shark. Then use your graph to answer the questions on the next page.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>16</th>
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Fatal Shark Attacks in the United States Since 2000

Which state had the most fatal shark attacks?
_________________________________________
How many did they have? ________________

Which states had the least fatal shark attacks?
____________________________________________________
How many did they each have? ________________

What is the difference between the number of shark attacks in the state with the most attacks and the states with the least? ________________

How many times more likely was the state with the most attacks to have a fatal shark attack than the states with the least amount of attacks? ________________

Which type of shark committed the most fatal shark attacks?
_________________________________________
How many did it commit? ________________

Which types of shark committed the least fatal shark attacks?
____________________________________________________
How many did they each commit? ________________

Do you feel one type of shark is more dangerous than the others based upon this data? ____________________________________________________________

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Fatal Shark Attacks in the United States Since 2000

Answer Key

Graph by state: Hawaii: 6, California: 5, Florida: 4, NC: 2, Virginia: 1, Texas: 1, Massachusetts: 1

Which state had the most fatal shark attacks? Hawaii
How many did they have? 6

Which states had the least fatal shark attacks? Virginia, Texas, Massachusetts
How many did they have? 1

What is the difference between the number of shark attacks in the state with the most attacks and the states with the least? 6 - 1 = 5

How many times more likely was the state with the most attacks to have a fatal shark attack than the states with the least amount of attacks? 6 ÷ 1 = 6

Graph by state: Bull Shark: 5, Tiger Shark: 5, Great White Shark: 6

Which type of shark committed the most fatal shark attacks? Great White Shark
How many did it commit? 6

Which types of shark committed the least fatal shark attacks? Bull Sharks and Tiger Sharks
How many did they each commit? 5

Do you feel one type of shark is more dangerous than the others based upon this data? The difference between the type with the most attacks and the other sharks is not very much and they all appear to be equally dangerous based upon this data.
Shark Attacks: Directions

Use these directions with the map of the United States and Mexico. Follow them to learn more about where shark attacks have occurred.

1. First, draw a star where you live. If you do not live in the United States or Mexico, draw a plane flying into one of the countries from where you live.
2. Now color New Jersey red. This is where the series of shark attacks took place in 1916.
3. One of the earliest documented shark attacks in the Americas took place in New York in the late 1700s when a man tried to cross the Hudson River. Color NY blue.
4. Many shark attacks have taken place over the years in Hawaii. Hawaii lies to the west of California out in the Pacific Ocean. Write the word ‘Hawaii’ along the left side of your map in orange.
5. South Carolina on the east coast has also had many shark attacks. Trace the coast of South Carolina in red.
6. Florida has been another common area for shark attacks. Draw a shark fin to the east of Florida.
7. California is another state where there have been several shark attacks. Trace the coast of California with orange.
8. Many types of sharks live in the Gulf of Mexico. Color the Gulf blue and draw three waves in black.
9. Bull sharks are the most likely to attack along the northern shore of the Gulf of Mexico. Trace the coast from Louisiana to western side of Florida gray.
10. Shark attacks are not very common around the Yucatan peninsula. Color the peninsula pink.
11. Overall shark attacks are not very common. Write ‘not common’ in green underneath the words ‘Shark Attacks’ in the title.
Coral Reef: Directions

Use these directions to complete the underwater scene. Print one picture of the scene and one picture of the sharks for each student.

1. A coral reef is made of coral polyps, which are a type of animal related to sea anemones and jellyfish. Color the bottom of the ocean in the picture pink, orange, green, and blue to make it look like coral.

2. A coral reef is typically found in warm, shallow waters. Make a wavy blue line about two inches below the top of your paper.

3. Sharks are the top of the food chain in the ocean and they usually eat large fish. Draw three large dark blue fish near the bottom of the ocean.

4. The Great White Shark is one of the sharks most likely to attack humans. Color the top half of the Great White Shark gray and then cut him out and glue him on the left side of the picture.

5. Lemon Sharks are not known to be a threat to humans. Color the Lemon Shark yellow and cut it out and glue it on the right side of the page.

6. Whale Sharks feed near the bottom of the ocean. Color the Whale Shark dark grey and cut and glue it in the middle, bottom part of the picture.

7. Whale Sharks eat plankton, which are microscopic organisms. Draw lots of tiny, yellow dots above the Whale Shark for plankton.

8. Seagrasses are an important food to smaller animals such as lobster and other shellfish. Color the two blades of grass on the left hand side light green.

9. Draw 2 tan seashells in between the two blades of grass.

10. Thresher sharks are the one type of shark the jumps out of the water like a dolphin. Color the Thresher shark dark green and then cut him out and glue him jumping out of the water.

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Coral Reef Following Directions
These pictures are part of the Coral Reef Following Directions Activity. Print one page for each student.
Compare a shark to another marine animal. Think about how they look and behave, where they live, what they eat, and what group of animals they belong to. Put characteristics related to only the shark on the left side and characteristics related to only the animal you picked on the right side. Characteristics that are similar between both animals go in the middle.
Use the word bank to label the parts of a shark. Use a book about sharks or a site such as www.sharksider.com to help you in your labelling.

**Word Bank:** First dorsal fin, Second dorsal fin, Pectoral fin, Pelvic Fin, Anal Fin, Caudal fin, Precaudal pit, Gill openings, Snout, Mouth, Eye

Great White Shark
Shark Attack!!

Write a short story about a shark attack. Think about where and when your story will take place and who will be in it. Remember to plan out a beginning, middle, and end.
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