

Name _____ Date _____



Great White Sharks

One of the most feared animals in the world is the shark and the shark most people are afraid of is the great white shark. It gets its name from its white belly. The top of the great white is gray which helps it blend in with the rocky bottom of the ocean. Although some fish are bigger, like the whale shark, the great white can grow up to 20 feet long. Unlike the calm, slow whale shark that feeds on tiny fish and plants, the great white is speedy and aggressive. A great white's prey includes sea lions, seals, sea turtles and rays. They use their razor sharp teeth, not to chew, but to rip their prey into small pieces. They have hundreds of teeth that can grow up to three inches long. The great white does not have many predators in the ocean except for orcas and larger sharks. Humans, however, are its biggest threat. Sharks often get caught in fishing nets or humans kill them for their fins or teeth.

1. How do great white sharks hide from predators? _____

2. Name one way a great white is different from a whale shark.

3. How are humans harmful to great white sharks? _____
