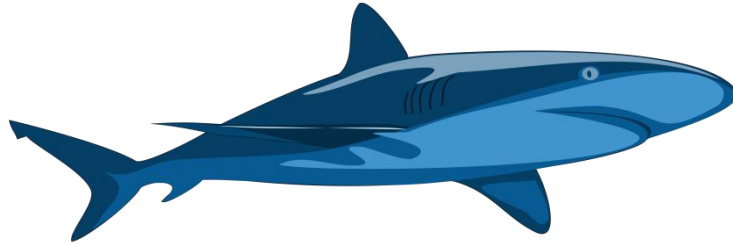


# Shark Dissection

## Pre-class activity



**Introduction:** Soon you will be taking the shark dissection class at Driftwood Education Center. The class will include classification, ecology, anatomy, and conservation information about a dogfish shark. Read and follow the directions below for an introductory activity.

**Directions:** Answer the questions below, then define the terms listed in italics.

**What does it mean to "classify" an organism?**

**Is a shark a fish?**

In the space below, describe some features shared by most fish.

Which of the above features do sharks have?

Based on the similarities/differences in the features above, is a shark a fish?

**Below are a few terms related to classification and dissection. Write the definitions for each.**

*Anatomy* -

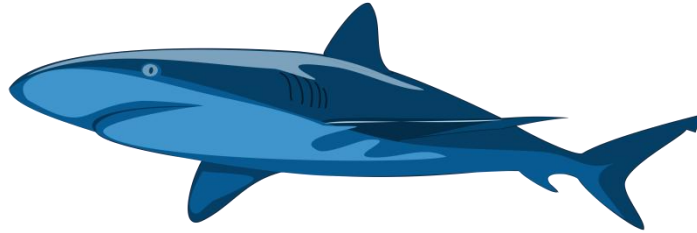
*Organ* -

*Adaptation* -

*Vertebrate* -

# Shark Dissection

## Post-class activity



**Directions:** Answer the prompts and questions below.

**Compare and contrast the human circulatory system to the dogfish shark dissected in class.**  
(Hint - think about the heart and related organs)

**What is the scientific name of the shark we dissected? What is the common name for this shark?**

**What is a keystone species?**

**True or False?** Caudal fin (tail) shape can help scientists classify fish.

**True or False?** Shark bites are common.

**True or False?** Sharks are an important component of healthy marine ecosystems.

**Brainstorm:** What are some ways that we can help protect sharks?

