

**Common Name: Sandbar Shark**  
**Scientific Name: *Carcharhinus plumbeus***



**Life History:**

The sandbar shark (*Carcharhinus plumbeus*) is a dark grey shark with large pectoral fins, no conspicuous fin markings and can grow to a maximum size of 3 m. Females can live up to 25 years, while males can live up to 19 years. Sandbar sharks are viviparous and can have between 1 and 14 pups per litter, with size at birth between 56 to 75 cm, and a gestation period estimated between 8 to 12 months. Although these sharks are large and common, they are not thought to be particularly dangerous due to their strong preference for fish and invertebrate prey.

**Geographical Distribution:**

The sandbar shark is a coastal-pelagic species, found abundantly in inshore and offshore temperate and tropical waters within the Indo-Pacific and Western Atlantic oceans. Sandbar sharks are common in bay mouths, harbors, and shallow sandy bays, but tend to avoid beaches, surf zones, and other areas with rough bottoms.

**Feeding:**

Sandbar sharks primarily prey upon on small bottom fishes, such as sardines, flounders, eels, stingrays, and smaller sharks, but is also known to consume mollusks and crustaceans.

**Conservation Status:**

IUCN Red List: Vulnerable (VU)



### **Tooth and Jaw Information:**

Their upper teeth are large and broadly triangular with strong serrations, while the bottom teeth are narrow and straight. There are 27-32 front row teeth in the upper jaw and 25-32 front row teeth in the lower jaw.



**Where did these jaws come from?**

