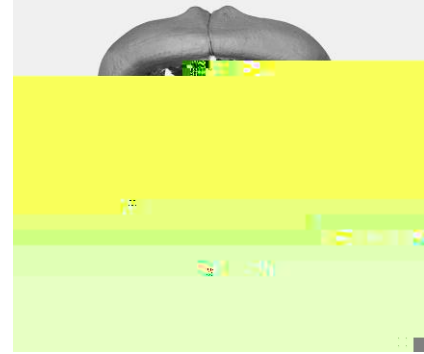


# LESSON 3: Shark Jaws & Teeth!

*Shark Unit. Lesson 3: Grades 6-8*

ESSENTIAL QUESTION OF THE DAY  
(EQOD):



MATERIALS:

INTRO

DEMO:

*Sharks routinely lose their teeth throughout their lives (~30 teeth per month!)  
In this demo, students will observe the reasons behind this, as well as pose questions as to why this is beneficial for the shark.*



*Unlike in the demo, sharks don't typically lose teeth simply by shaking their heads. However, due to their 'sawing' technique when eating, shark teeth often times will remain stuck in prey, or even fall out during the meal! (that is why you can find shark teeth on the beach!)*

*Yes! As you can see in our class set of jaws, shark teeth that are exposed out front are much duller than those that are yet to be used.*

*They do! Over time, shark teeth in the back of the jaws, will fully replace teeth up front. These teeth slowly but surely are wider and larger as the shark grows. Sharks that prey on fishes & stingrays (juveniles) tend to have more pointy teeth than their adult brethren, whose teeth are broader and more serrated.*

*Shark jaws will 'dry out' once removed from a dead shark. Typically, shark jaws that you see (at a gift shop, or here in class) are manually spread out*

# Human Teeth

## Mystery Jaws Investigation

**Materials:**

Shark Jaws (2 per group)

Rulers

Shark Teeth ID Sheets

Distribute 2 different shark jaws per group, if applicable. (Cover up the shark species label, and reveal at the end!)

Have students complete the mystery shark jaw data table.

Horn Shark	Mako Shark	Tiger Shark

**\*\* Teacher Cheat Sheet:**

- Horn Shark    Hard shelled mollusks: Clams, Snails, Crabs, etc.
- Tiger Shark    Notorious wide range of prey: Fish, Seals, Sea Turtles, Birds, etc.
- Mako Shark    Large, open ocean fish: Tuna, Bonito, Swordfish, etc.