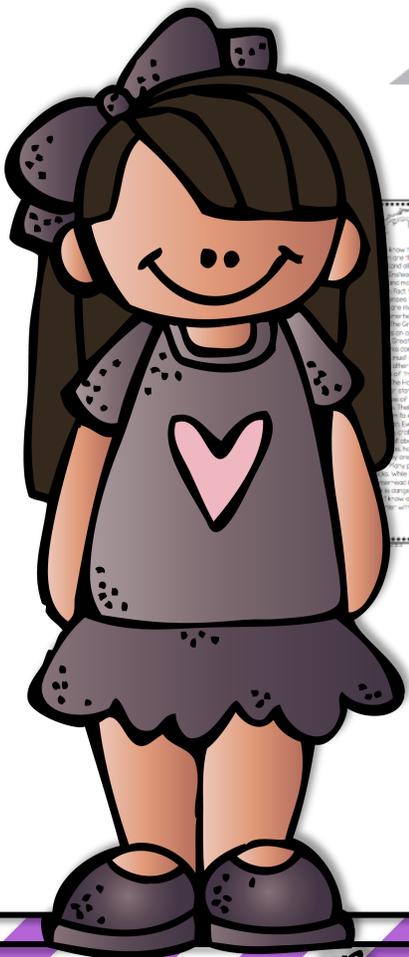


Comparing & Contrasting

Free Sample!

Created by: Gina Szczodrowski



Sharks
By Gina Szczodrowski

How many are over 300 types of sharks? Two of the most are the Great White Shark and the Hammerhead Shark. These are all sharks belong to a group of fish that do not have scales. Their bodies are supported by cartilage, which is much more flexible than bone. Their skin is very rough. It is so rough that it has been used as sandpaper. Sharks have the ability that we know, however, their senses of sight, smell, and touch are stronger than ours. Unlike both the Great White and the Hammerhead, they have many of their senses on their heads. The Great White Shark is at the top of the food chain. An adult often weighs in at more than 10,000 pounds. As a Great White Shark can weigh in at more than 10,000 pounds, it can swim up to 40 miles per hour. Baby sharks, called pups, are born at the top of the food chain. Baby sharks, called pups, are born at the top of the food chain. Baby sharks, called pups, are born at the top of the food chain.

Two Dolphins
By Gina Szczodrowski

The dolphin family consists of around 40 different types of dolphins. One of the most recognized of the dolphin family is the bottlenose dolphin. Another widely recognized dolphin is the Orca or Killer Whale. They are part of the dolphin family. Dolphins and Orcas are carnivorous mammals. This means that they eat meat. They both breathe through a blowhole that is found on the top of their heads. Since they are mammals, they have to come to the surface of the water to breathe or just like we breathe air. Both of these mammals have special sounds that they use for communication.

Two Dolphins
By Gina Szczodrowski

Dolphins and Orcas are both carnivores because they eat...

How are Bottlenose dolphins and Orcas similar?

How are Orcas and bottlenose dolphins different?

Complete a graphic organizer comparing and contrasting the orca and bottlenose dolphin.

One nonfiction passage about sharks to practice comparing and contrasting. This free sample includes the same article in two formats with comprehension questions and an answer key. There is also a blank venn-diagram. To see the full product, go to this link:

<http://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Comparing-and-Contrasting-6-Nonfiction-Passages-553453>

Teacher Notes

I have included 6 different reading passages, in 2 formats, that can be used when teaching comparing and contrasting. The passages are offered as half size with the questions on the same page and full page with questions on a separate page. Each passage also has 4 multiple choice questions that correspond with it. Students will then complete a graphic organizer comparing and contrasting the two items mentioned in their article. After the passages you will find a set of interview questions. Students can partner up, interview their partner, and then create a Venn Diagram comparing and contrasting themselves with their partners. You can extend this further by having students write a paragraph using their Venn Diagram. **Note- I have included answer keys for the multiple choice questions, but NOT the Venn Diagrams as these can vary.

Ideas for Use:

(This is how my students will be completing the assignment) Print the passages with the corresponding questions on the back. Laminate. Partner (or group) students up and give each set a different passage. Students will create a Venn Diagram (a template is included but you can just have your kids make their own to save ink) and then answer the questions. They will record the answers on the bottom/back of their Venn Diagram paper. You can use the one page option (story and question on the same page) for centers, homework, or independent work.

Centers/Early Finisher activity- print and laminate as mentioned above. Place all passages in a center for students to complete. You can also print a few copies of the Venn Diagram and laminate these as well so students can write on them with dry erase markers. Students can complete the comprehension questions with dry erase marker as well, and if you print a copy of the answer sheet, they can self check.

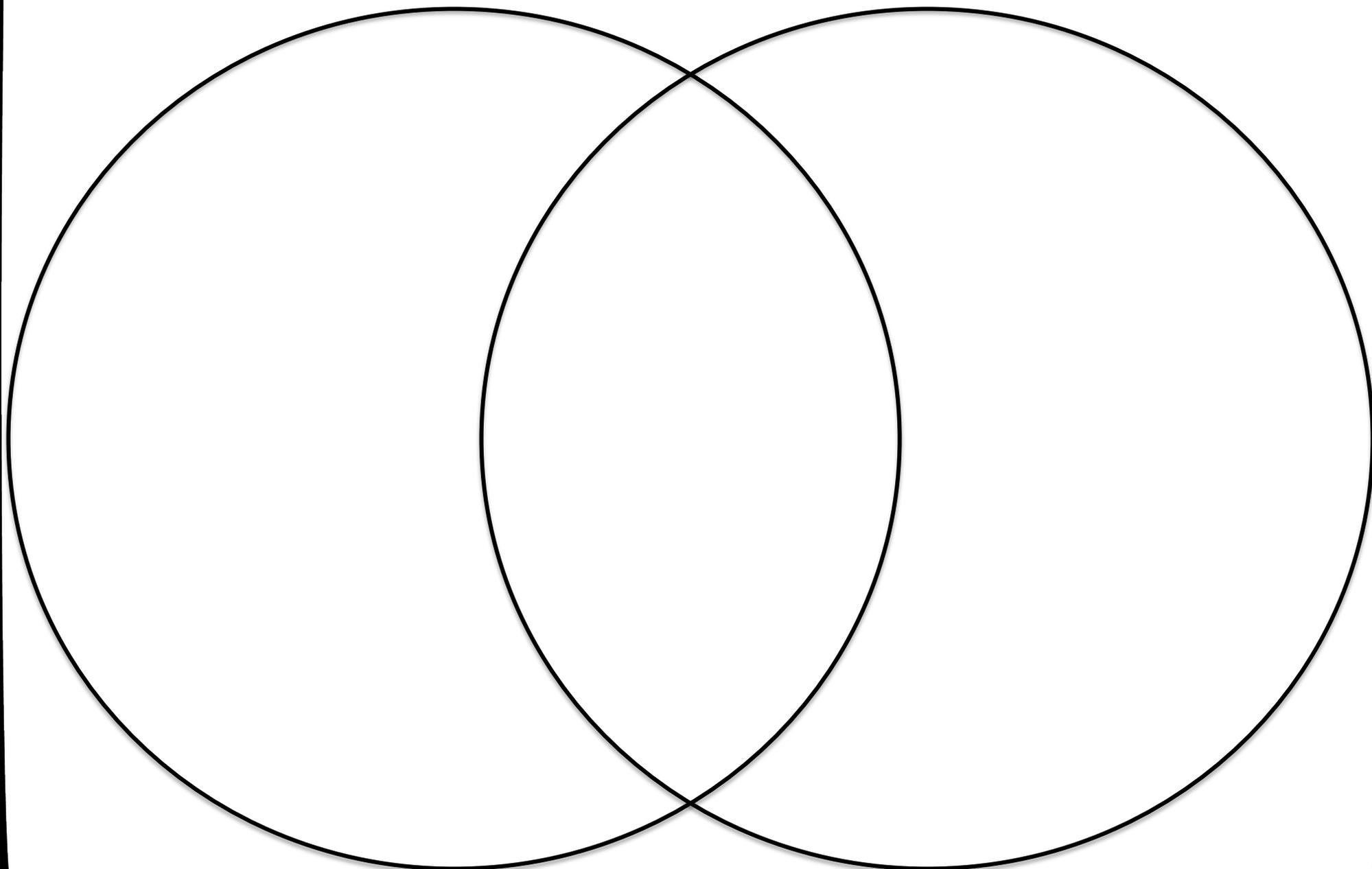
Differentiation:

Higher level students will complete a Double Bubble map instead of a Venn Diagram. They will then write their own questions that go with the story and create an answer key.

Students that need more support will work with me to read the passage. We will discuss the passage and create a Venn Diagram together before allowed to work on the comprehension questions alone/with a partner.

Name: _____

Date: _____





Sharks

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Did you know there are over 350 types of sharks? Two of the most common are the Great White Shark and the Hammerhead Shark. These sharks (and all sharks) belong to a group of fish that do not have bones. Instead, their bodies are supported by cartilage, which is softer and more flexible than bone. Their skin is very rough. It is so rough, in fact, that it has been used as sand paper! Sharks have the same senses that we have, however, their senses of sight, smell, and hearing are much stronger than ours. While both the Great White and the Hammerhead are sharks, they have many differences.

The Great White Shark is at the top of the food chain once it becomes an adult, often preying on sea mammals, such as sea lions. As an adult, Great White Sharks can weigh in at more than 4,500 pounds! But, sharks don't start off at the top of the food chain. Baby sharks, or pups, must avoid other predators for their first years of life, including other Great White Sharks. Some pups don't live past a year because of the predators.

The Hammerhead Shark is much different than the Great White Shark. For starters, its head is shaped like a rectangle, giving it its name. The shape of their head allows them to trap their favorite meal—stingrays. Their eyes are located on the sides of their head, which allow them to easily scan the ocean quicker than other species of sharks can. Even though stingrays are their favorite meal, they also eat bony fish, crab, lobsters, and other sea creatures. These sharks only weigh in at about 500 pounds. These pups, just like the Great White Shark pups, have to worry about predators when they are first born. Once they are adults, they do not have many predators though.

Many people are afraid of all types of sharks because of the attacks. While Great White Sharks have attacked people, the Hammerhead is not known for its attacks on people. The Hammerhead shark is dangerous, just like a Great White Shark, but not as aggressive. I don't know about you, but I sure don't want to ever have a close encounter with a shark!

Name: _____

Date: _____

1. What are sharks' bodies supported by?

- a. Bones
- b. Skin
- c. Cartilage
- d. Flippers

2. Which senses are stronger for sharks than for us?

- a. Touch, taste, and smell
- b. Sight, smell, and hearing
- c. Touch, smell, and hearing
- d. None of them

3. How are Great White Sharks different from Hammerhead Sharks?

- a. The hammerhead shark weighs more than the Great White.
- b. The Great White is known for its head shape.
- c. Great whites' pups have to worry about predators, but hammerheads' don't.
- d. Hammerheads' heads are shaped like a rectangle.

4. How are Great White Sharks similar to Hammerhead Sharks?

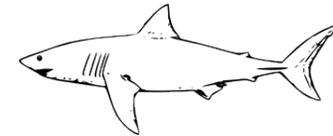
- a. Neither of them has ever attacked people.
- b. They both weigh over 4,000 pounds.
- c. They both belong to the same group of fish.
- d. They are at the top of the food chain.

Complete a graphic organizer comparing and contrasting the two types of sharks in this article.



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The Great White Shark is at the top of the food chain once it becomes an adult, often preying on sea mammals, such as sea lions. As an adult, Great White Sharks can weigh in at more than 4,500 pounds! But, sharks don't start off at the top of the food chain. Baby sharks, or pups, must avoid other predators for their first years of life, including other Great White Sharks. Some pups don't live past a year because of the predators.

The Hammerhead Shark is much different than the Great White Shark. For starters, its head is shaped like a rectangle, giving it its name. The shape of their head allows them to trap their favorite meal- stingrays. Their eyes are located on the sides of their head, which allow them to easily scan the ocean quicker than other species of sharks can. Even though stingrays are their favorite meal, they also eat bony fish, crab, lobsters, and other sea creatures. These sharks only weigh in at about 500 pounds. These pups, just like the Great White Shark pups, have to worry about predators when they are first born. Once they are adults, they do not have many predators though.

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ANSWER KEY

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Thank you!

Thank you for taking the time to download this item. I understand that you value your time (and funds ☺), and hope that this packet provides everything you need to complete the activity.

This is not intended to replace your curriculum, but instead to supplement. If there is anything else that you need or anything you would like to see me create, please do not hesitate to ask. You can contact me at thirdgradetidbits@gmail.com.

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