



Take a Bite out of Stereotypes



When someone says “shark,” many think of a vicious beast lurking in the ocean, waiting to attack unsuspecting prey—or people.

But that isn’t an accurate picture of *all* sharks. In fact, there are more than 350 different kinds of sharks, with diverse qualities. The whale shark is the largest fish in the ocean—it can be longer than a school bus! But it eats mainly plankton and is harmless to humans. The dwarf lantern shark is so small you could easily hold it

in one hand! The image of bloodthirsty sharks is a stereotype—a broad assumption about an entire group.

You might run into stereotypes about humans, too—due to skin color, culture, gender, or other things. Lumping a group of people together based on one part of their identity isn’t fair. Just as a shark doesn’t always spell danger, we can’t judge others based on stereotypes. If we dive in and look under the surface, we’ll see that each individual is unique.

Find words that help us appreciate diversity and avoid stereotypes.

A SHARK HAS NO BONES. ITS SKELETON IS MADE OF CARTILAGE, LIKE YOUR NOSE.

MANY SHARKS CONSTANTLY LOSE AND REPLACE TEETH. SOME LOSE 30,000 IN A LIFETIME!

SINCE ITS EYES ARE ON THE SIDES OF ITS HEAD, A SHARK CAN NEARLY SEE IN A FULL CIRCLE.

A	J	U	S	T	I	C	E	K	K	W	U
Y	P	J	H	J	O	I	R	C	F	V	N
H	Y	P	Y	U	F	C	X	E	R	D	D
R	U	U	R	N	V	V	D	S	I	E	E
P	E	A	F	E	O	U	L	E	E	N	R
I	G	I	F	D	C	M	V	C	N	G	S
E	N	O	P	A	K	I	R	N	D	A	T
U	D	D	T	L	I	D	A	A	S	B	A
Q	J	I	I	T	T	R	U	T	H	N	N
I	O	V	J	V	N	M	N	P	I	D	D
N	D	E	D	N	I	M	N	E	P	O	I
U	J	R	E	P	S	D	M	C	S	H	N
X	N	S	E	G	P	U	C	I	S	G	
B	K	I	N	S	A	M	R	A	M	V	J
B	L	T	T	T	P	T	I	F	L	B	P
V	U	Y	H	Y	K	E	S	E	Y	R	F
I	W	Y	A	Y	A	I	C	C	Q	H	K
I	O	Y	S	W	W	O	P	T	L	W	P