

GYSTC Activity



Title: Shark Tooth Exploration

<p>Purpose:</p>	<p>Students will study a variety of Shark Teeth to gain insight into shark behavior, eating habits, and the differences in species of Sharks.</p>
<p>Standard:</p>	<p>S3E2. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information on how fossils provide evidence of past organisms. a. Construct an argument from observations of fossils (authentic or reproductions) to communicate how they serve as evidence of past organisms and the environments in which they lived. b. Develop a model to describe the sequence and conditions required for an organism to become fossilized. (Clarification statement: Types of fossils (cast, mold, trace, and true) are not addressed in this standard.)</p> <p>S5L2. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information showing that some characteristics of organisms are inherited and other characteristics are acquired. a. Ask questions to compare and contrast instincts and learned behaviors. b. Ask questions to compare and contrast inherited and acquired physical traits. (Clarification statement: Punnett squares and genetics are taught in future grades.)</p>
<p>Materials:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Shark Tooth Guide ● Shark Tooth Variety Bags
<p>Procedures:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide students with a Shark Tooth Guide 2. Provide students with a Shark Tooth Variety Bag. 3. Students should examine and study the variety of Shark Teeth. Students may compare and contrast the different species of Shark which the tooth comes from.

Science Behind It:	Teeth fossilize through a process called permineralization. As water seeps through sediments over the teeth, it transports the minerals that are found in the sediment. These minerals fill in pore spaces in the tooth causing them to fossilize.
Questions to Ask:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Where do shark teeth come from?2. Do shark teeth grow back?3. What is a Fossil?