

Name:

Date:

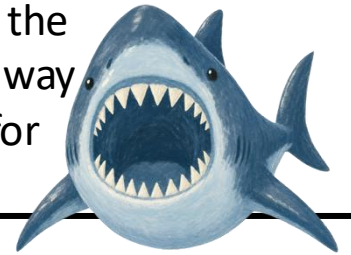
Dolphins vs Sharks

Dolphins and sharks both live in the ocean and are excellent swimmers. They may look similar from a distance, but they are actually very different animals. Dolphins are mammals. They breathe air through a blowhole on top of their heads, so they must regularly swim to the surface. Dolphins give birth to live young and feed their babies milk. They are also warm-blooded, which means their bodies stay at a steady temperature.



Sharks are fish. Instead of coming to the surface for air, most sharks use gills to take oxygen from the water. Sharks are cold-blooded, so their body temperature changes with the water around them. Some sharks lay eggs, while others give birth to live young.

Dolphins and sharks also have some similarities. Both have fins that help them move through the water, and both eat other sea animals. Their streamlined bodies allow them to swim quickly through the ocean. Although dolphins and sharks can look alike, the way they breathe, control their body temperature and care for their young makes them very different animals.



1. What is one way dolphins and sharks are alike?

2. How do dolphins breathe?

3. How do sharks breathe?

4. What is one difference between dolphins and sharks?

5. How are dolphins and sharks different when it comes to body temperature?



Answers

1. Both live in the ocean, have fins, and are excellent swimmers.
2. Dolphins breathe air through a blowhole on top of their heads.
3. Sharks use gills to take oxygen from the water.
4. Dolphins are mammals, while sharks are fish.
5. Dolphins are warm-blooded, while sharks are cold-blooded.