

POP! TEACHER RESOURCE

Lesson Plan

On the Hunt

Lesson Plan for *Sharks*

Grade 1

Objective

To help students identify the advantages and disadvantages of different hunting behaviors used by sharks.

Things Needed

- *Sharks* book
- Large, open area for an active game
- Paper and pencils

Before the Activity

Read *Sharks* out loud to students.

Activity

Introduce the concept of animal behavior to students. An animal's behavior is the way it acts or responds to its environment. The book describes several behaviors of sharks, including how sharks hunt.

Different species of sharks have different ways of hunting. Pages 14 and 15 describe two of these behaviors. Turn to these pages and ask students the following question:

- Which two types of hunting behavior do these pages describe? (Answer: One shark hits fish with its long tail to stun them. Another shark hides and waits, attacking when a fish swims nearby.)

Have students play a variation of Ships Across the Ocean based on the hunting behaviors of different sharks. Have the class form a line on one side of the open area. Then choose one student to be "it." This student will be like the first shark, which stuns fish with its long tail. When this student says go, the other students should try to run across to the other side of the open area. The student who is "it" will try to tag them.



If a student is tagged, he or she should sit down. Tagged students will be like the second shark, which waits and attacks when fish swim nearby. These students can also tag others, but they have to stay sitting and not move from their spot. After students reach the other side, the person who is “it” will say go again. The remaining students will try to run back to the first side. Repeat until only one student is left.

When the game is over, have students return to their desks and write answers to the following questions:

- What are the advantages and disadvantages of hunting like the first shark?
(Possible Answers: This shark can swim around and actively look for fish. But this shark also uses a lot of energy trying to find food.)
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of hunting like the second shark?
(Possible Answers: This shark doesn't have to spend as much energy, since it does not actively swim around looking for food. But this shark does depend on fish swimming near it.)

Evaluation

Could students identify and answer questions about different sharks' hunting behaviors?

Standards

This lesson plan may be used to address the National Science Education Standards' Content Standard C, grades K–4, and the Common Core State Standards' reading standards for informational texts, grade 1 (RI 1.1).

