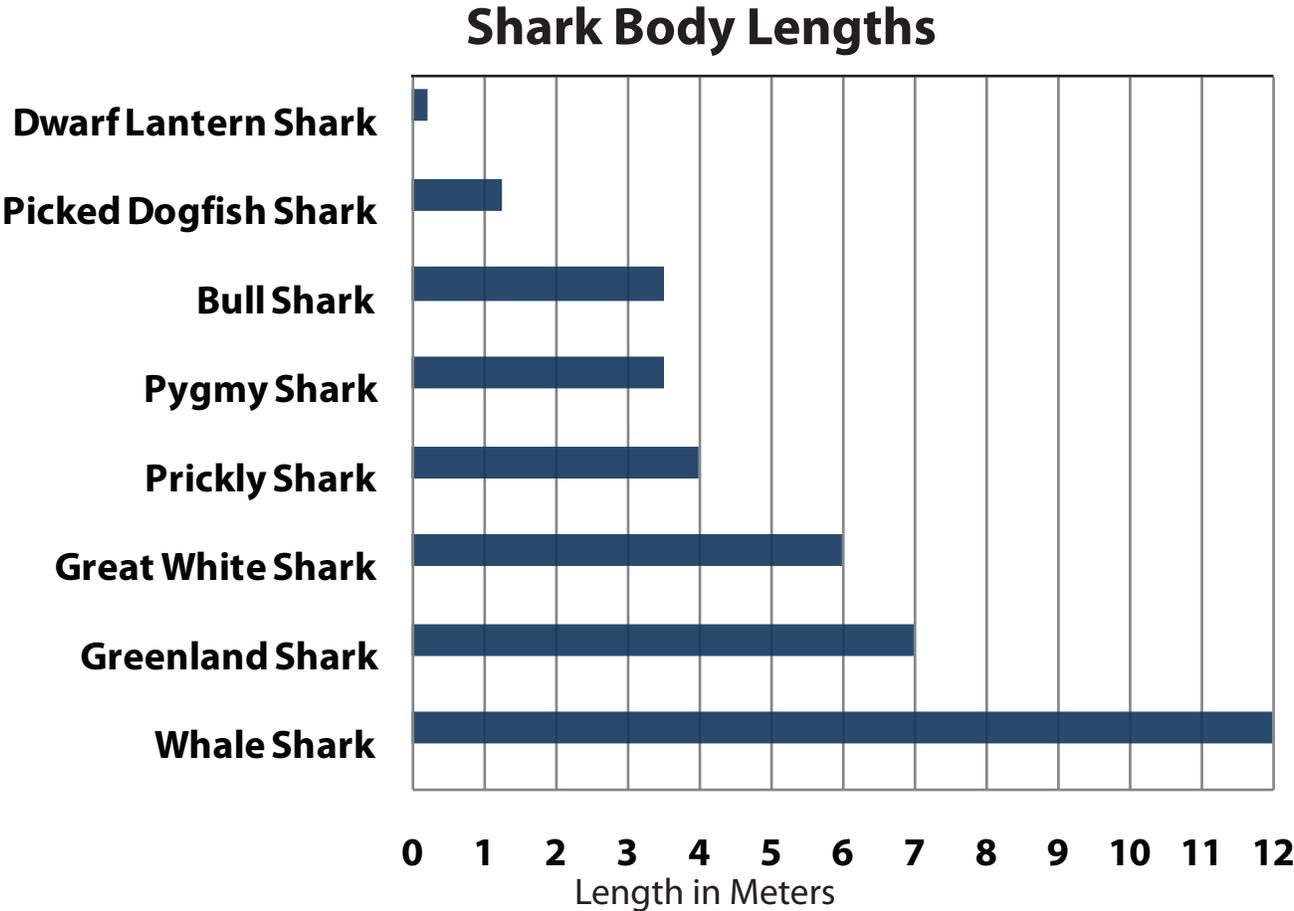# Animal Math

Activity 2 - Shark Attack!

Sharks are some of the largest fish known to man. Sharks have been on earth for millions of years and are believed to have existed even before the dinosaurs. There are over 300 different species of shark, which range in size from fairly small to gigantic. The following graph shows the approximate body lengths for several species of shark:

Shark Body Lengths

Dwarf Lantern Shark
Picked Dogfish Shark
Bull Shark
Pygmy Shark
Prickly Shark
Great White Shark
Greenland Shark
Whale Shark

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Length in Meters

Can you believe THIS is math?

Animal Math

Activity 2 - Shark Attack - *continued*

Activity Questions:

1. What is the longest shark? How long is it?

2. What is the difference between the longest shark and the shortest shark?

3. Which two sharks have the same average body length?

4. The Whale Shark is twice as long as what other shark?

5. List the length measurements for all the sharks

Further Exercises:

- Measure the distance between your shoulders. How many of "you", standing shoulder to shoulder, would it take to equal the length of the Greenland Shark?

- What is your height in meters? If you were lying down, how many of "you" would have to be in a line to equal the length of the Whale Shark?

- To see how long some of these sharks really are, take a long string. Measure 12 m and cut the string. Lay the string down in the hall or on the floor so that it is straight. That's how long the Whale Shark is. Cut some other strings which are equal to lengths of different sharks and compare them to the length of the Whale Shark.

- The Great White Shark is approximately half the length of the Whale Shark. If the Great White Shark weighs about 2,700 kg, how much do you think the Whale Shark weighs? Why?

Can you believe THIS is math?