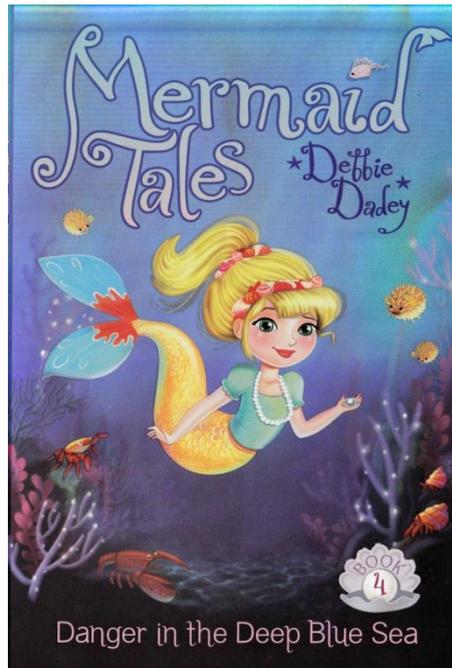


MERMAID TALES

A Teaching Unit

Danger in the Deep Blue Sea



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www.debbiedadey.com and www.Facebook.com/debbiedadey

Other books in the Mermaid Tales series include:

Trouble at Trident Academy

Battle of the Best Friends

A Whale of a Tale

Danger in the Deep Blue Sea is published by Simon and Schuster, 2012

MERMAID TALES

DANGER IN THE DEEP BLUE SEA

Book Summary:

Pearl can't believe that someone doesn't do something. After all, a shark has been sighted in Trident City and Kiki has a shark skeleton in her dorm room! Pearl sets out to help out Wanda by getting rid of the skeleton for her, so she can get some sleep. Who could rest when their roommate sleeps in a shark skeleton? Everything backfires when all the girls at Trident Academy get mad at her for making Kiki move out of her room. Pearl storms home alone and the worst thing in the ocean happens to her.

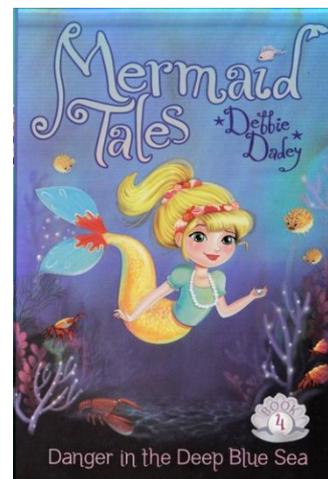
Meet the author:



Debbie Dadey grew up in Kentucky far from the ocean. When her family traveled to Florida for a vacation, she looked for mermaids. After she married Eric Dadey, they moved to many different states-most far from the ocean. Now she lives in eastern Pennsylvania, about two hours from the ocean. She is still looking for mermaids!

Eric and Debbie have three wonderful children; Nathan, Becky, and Alex. Nathan and Debbie co-authored two books together: *Slime Wars* and *Slime Time*. She is currently working on a story with her daughter, Becky. Debbie's website is www.debbiedadey.com and her Facebook

fanpage is www.Facebook.com/debbiedadey. She enjoys writing, reading, answering kid's questions on her blog, Debbie Talks, visiting schools, and Skyping with classrooms.



MERMAID TALES

DEBBIE DADEY BOOKLIST

Here is a selected list of books by Debbie Dadey. For a complete list of titles visit www.debbiedadey.com

Trouble at Trident Academy

Mermaids Don't Run Track

A Whale of a Tale

The Other Side of Magic

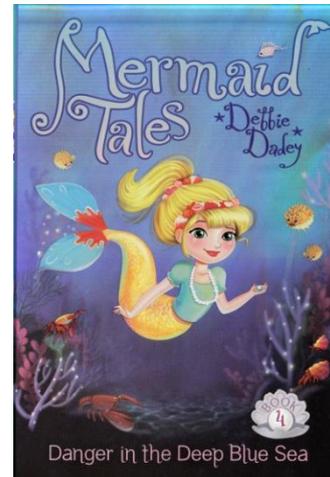
Monsters Don't Scuba Dive

The Swamp Monster in Third Grade

The Wrong Side of Magic

The Worst Name in Third Grade

Battle of the Best Friends



Pre-reading activities: Before reading **Danger in the Deep Blue Sea** complete some or all of the activities below to peak interest in the story, as well as to increase comprehension, reading, and predicting skills.

1. Check as many shark books out of the library as possible, or schedule a library visit. Before letting kids look at the books, let them write down some things they believe about sharks, then use the books to find out if their beliefs are real. Use the books to find a few more interesting facts about sharks. Before putting the books away, ask the students to look at the back of the books to see if there is an index. Ask students to tell you what a glossary is. You may wish to use the print out on the following page.
2. Show a video of ocean life and ask students which animals they would like to see if they swam in the ocean. Would they like to see a shark? Why or why not?
3. Arrange with a local museum, zoo, aquarium or archeological society to view skeletons or partial skeletons of animals. Ask kids if they think it is really possible to sleep inside an animal skeleton. Would they want to?

MERMAID TALES

DANGER IN THE DEEPBLUE SEA

Pre-reading activity

Name:	Date:
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Use the chart below to write down some things you believe about sharks. Use library books to see if your beliefs are correct.

Beliefs or what I've heard about sharks.	True or False?

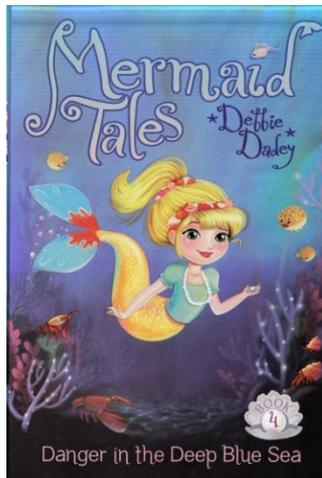
Use the chart below to write down some interesting things you have learned about sharks.

1.
2.
3.
4.

What can help you find where something is in a book? _____

FUN WAYS TO LEARN VOCABULARY WORDS FOR DANGER IN THE DEEP BLUE SEA

- Let students add their favorite vocabulary word from the chapter you are studying to their own 'shark' tooth. You can use the next page or let students make their own. Display the teeth on your classroom door. Encourage students to touch their own word when they go in or out the door. If you do the activity for every chapter you'll have a door full of teeth!
- Let students go on a timed word search in Danger in the Deep Blue Sea for each vocabulary word you call out.
- Let students draw a shark and hide vocabulary words in it.
- Sing the mermaid song and then make up your own song using as many vocabulary words as possible.

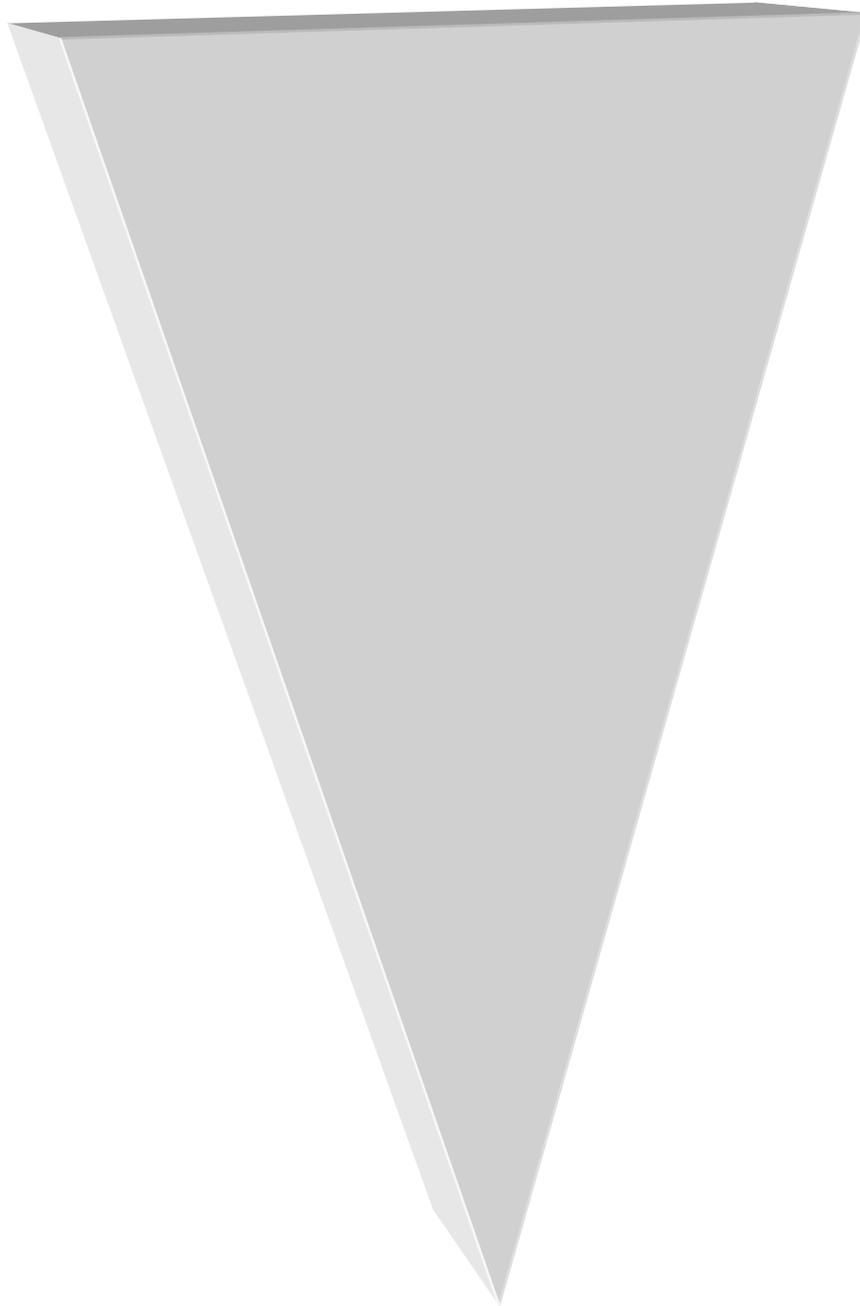


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DANGER IN THE DEEP BLUE SEA

Pre-reading activity

Cut out the shark tooth below and add your favorite vocabulary word. Add your name and display it on your classroom door. Touch your word when you pass. Don't let it bite! Did you know that the great white shark's teeth are actually serrated, or rough around the edges?



TRIDENT CITY TIDE NEWSPAPER

Make your own paper!



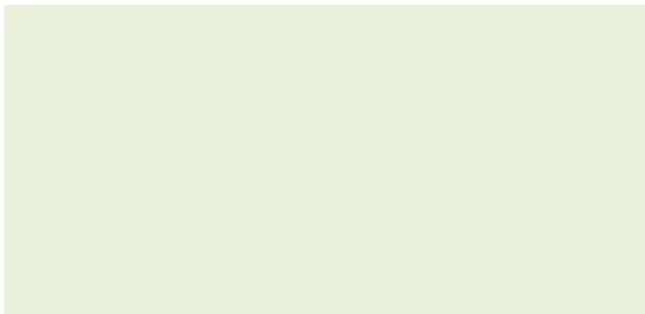
Danger in
The Deep
Blue Sea

Chapter 1

NAME:

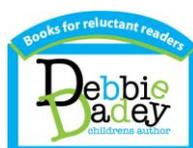
DATE:

Put your own stories and pictures here!



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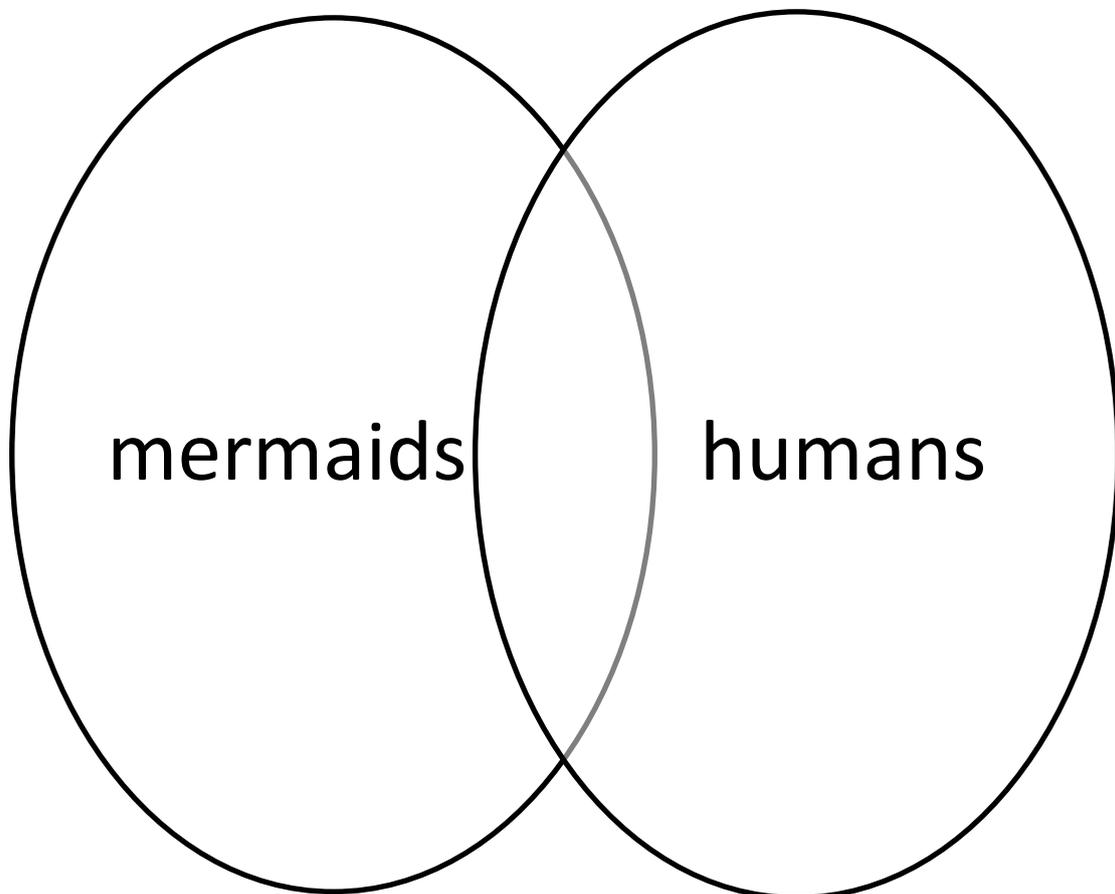
DANGER IN THE DEEP BLUE SEA

Chapter 2/comparison

Name:

Date:

Use the venn diagram below to compare and contrast humans and mermaids. In the human oval give some human characteristics like feet, toes, etc. In the mermaid oval write some mermaid characteristics. In the middle put some things that are alike about mermaids and humans. Now, on the back make a venn diagram with mermaids and sharks.



MERMAID TALES

DANGER IN THE DEEP BLUE SEA

CHAPTER 3/MATH

Name:

Date:

Use the menu below to figure out the answers to the questions. On the back, make up your own merpeople menu. You might want to use a book about ocean creatures to help you.

Trident Academy Lunchroom Menu

Black Oyster and Sablefish Stew 20 shells	Hagfish jelly sandwich 4 shells
Seaweed juice 1 shell	Ribbon Worms 6 shells
Octopus legs with krill sauce 3 shells	Daily Special 4 shells
Crab Casserole with Vent Bacteria seasoning 9 shells	Polka-dot Batfish Sushi in seaweed wrap 5 shells

1. Kiki, Echo, and Shelly each bought the Crab Casserole with Vent Bacteria seasoning for lunch. How much did they spend all together? _____
2. If five girls at Pearl's table ate the longhorn cowfish daily special, how much money did they spend all together? _____
3. How much more is Pearl's lunch than Kiki's? _____
4. If Rocky was really hungry and ordered everything on the menu, how much would it cost? _____
5. How much would 3 seaweed juices, 4 daily specials, and 2 orders of ribbon worms cost? _____
6. Echo has ten shells. Does she have enough money to get the Daily Special and the crab casserole? _____ How much more does she need? _____
7. In the merkingdom, one ruby equals 10 shells. If Pearl has one ruby, does she have enough money to buy her favorite stew and a juice? _____
8. How many rubies could you get with 67 shells? _____
9. Which is more thirty rubies or 246 shells? _____
10. Pick out your lunch above. List your food below and tell how much it costs. You have one ruby, do you have enough to pay for it? Show the math.

MERMAID TALES ANSWERS

DANGER IN THE DEEP BLUE SEA

CHAPTER 3/MATH

Name:

Date:

Use the menu below to figure out the answers to the questions. On the back, make up your own merpeople menu. You might want to use a book about ocean creatures to help you.

Trident Academy Lunchroom Menu

Black Oyster and Sablefish Stew 20 shells	Hagfish jelly sandwich 4 shells
Seaweed juice 1 shell	Ribbon Worms 6 shells
Octopus legs with krill sauce 3 shells	Daily Special 4 shells
Crab Casserole with Vent Bacteria seasoning 9 shells	Polka-dot Batfish Sushi in seaweed wrap 5 shells

1. Kiki, Echo, and Shelly each bought the Crab Casserole with Vent Bacteria seasoning for lunch. How much did they spend all together? $9 \times 3 = 27$ shells or $9 + 9 + 9 = 27$
2. If five girls at Pearl's table ate the longhorn cowfish daily special, how much money did they spend all together? $4 \times 5 = 20$ or $4 + 4 + 4 + 4 = 20$ shells
3. How much more is Pearl's lunch than Kiki's? Pearl always eats the stew. $20 - 9 = 11$
4. If Rocky was really hungry and ordered everything on the menu, how much would it cost? $20 + 1 + 3 + 9 + 4 + 6 + 4 + 5 = 52$ shells
5. How much would 3 seaweed juices, 4 daily specials, and 2 orders of ribbon worms cost? $3 \times 1 + 3$ $4 \times 4 = 16$ $2 \times 6 = 12$ $3 + 16 + 12 = 31$
6. Echo has ten shells. Does she have enough money to get the Daily Special and the crab casserole? No $4 + 9 = 13$ How much more does she need? $13 - 10 = 3$
7. In the merkingdom, one ruby equals 10 shells. If Pearl has one ruby, does she have enough money to buy her favorite stew and a juice? $20 + 1 = 21$ no
8. How many rubies could you get with 67 shells? 6
9. Which are more thirty rubies or 246 shells? $30 \times 10 = 300$ so thirty rubies is more.
10. Pick out your lunch above. List your food below and tell how much it costs. You have one ruby; do you have enough to pay for it? Show the math. Answers will vary.

MERMAID TALES

DANGER IN THE DEEP BLUE SEA

CHAPTER 4/PREDICTION AND PUNCTUATION

Name:

Date:

In Danger in the Deep Blue Sea, Pearl gets the shock of her life when her necklace is missing. Can you predict what happened to it?

Fix the punctuation in these sentences from chapter four.

1. good riddance pearl said
2. that was exhausting she said
3. kiki shook her head
4. he wasnt an ordinary merman
5. oh my neptune pearl snapped
6. no kidding pearl said
7. i hope coach barnacle doesnt work us that hard every time pearl said
8. but when she got to the rock it was empty
9. my necklace pearl screamed
10. pearl screamed someone has stolen my necklace

MERMAID TALES

DANGER IN THE DEEP BLUE SEA

CHAPTER 4/PREDICTION AND PUNCTUATION

Name:

Date:

In Danger in the Deep Blue Sea, Pearl gets the shock of their life when her necklace is missing. Can you predict what happened to it?

Fix the punctuation in these sentences from chapter four.

1. “Good riddance,” Pearl said.
2. “That was exhausting,” She said.
3. Kiki shook her head.
4. He wasn’t an ordinary merman.
5. “Oh my Neptune,” Pearl snapped.
6. “No kidding,” Pearl said.
7. “I hope coach Barnacle doesn’t work us that hard every time,” Pearl said.
8. But when she got to the rock it was empty.
9. “My necklace,” Pearl screamed.
10. Pearl screamed, “Someone has stolen my necklace.”

MERMAID TALES

DANGER IN THE DEEP BLUE SEA

CHAPTER 5/MAPS

Name:

Date:

Look at the map of Trident City in the front of Danger in the Deep Blue Sea. Find MerPark where Pearl and Echo had Tail Flippers practice. Where could Pearl have lost her necklace? Name four places.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

In the space below make up your own map of another underwater place, Poseidon's World (an amusement park for merpeople).

MERMAID TALES

DANGER IN THE DEEP BLUE SEA

CHAPTER 6/REASONING

Name:

Date:

Answer the questions below using full sentences.

1. Do you think that Kiki took Pearl's necklace? Why or why not? _____

2. Why do you think Wanda was upset that Pearl made Kiki get out of Wanda's room?

3. Why did Kiki have tears in her eyes? _____

4. Why wasn't Kiki mad at Wanda? _____

5. If Kiki took Pearl's necklace, where do you think she might have hidden it?

Do you think it is right to take something that doesn't belong to you? _____

MERMAID TALES

DANGER IN THE DEEP BLUE SEA

CHAPTER 7/ECOLOGY

Name:

Date:



Morgan eats a lionfish in Danger in the Deep Blue Sea.

Environmentalists near the Atlantic Ocean want you to eat them too! Why? Because lionfish have invaded waters where they have no natural predator. What does that mean? It means that while lionfish numbers are growing, it is killing off many species of reef dwelling fish and endangering entire ecosystems. No one

knows how lionfish first got into the Atlantic Ocean, they are originally from the Indo-Pacific Ocean, but some scientists believe that people may have dumped them from their home aquariums when they got tired of them.

Lionfish hide in the reefs, waiting to catch fish. They have eighteen needle-like fins which contain poison. If a person gets stung by a lionfish it is very painful and can cause breathing difficulties and vomiting.

1. Why are environmentalists worried about lionfish? _____

2. Where are lionfish originally from? _____

3. What happens if you get stung by a lionfish? _____

4. Where do lionfish like to hide? _____

5. Name something you can do to help rid the Atlantic Ocean of the lionfish problem.

6. What is a predator? _____

MERMAID TALES ANSWERS

DANGER IN THE DEEP BLUE SEA

CHAPTER 7/ECOLOGY

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Date:



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Lionfish hide in the reefs, waiting to catch fish. They have eighteen needle-like fins which contain poison. If a person gets stung by a lionfish it is very painful and can cause breathing difficulties and vomiting.

1. Why are environmentalists worried about lionfish? **_They have invaded waters where they have no natural predator.**_____
2. Where are lionfish originally from? **__Indo-Pacific Ocean**_____
3. What happens if you get stung by a lionfish? **It hurts and it can cause breathing difficulties and vomiting.**_____
4. Where do lionfish like to hide? **_They hide in reefs.**_____
5. Name something you can do to help rid the Atlantic Ocean of the lionfish problem. **Eat lionfish for dinner.**_____
6. What is a predator? **_An animal that eats another animal.**_____

MERMAID TALES
DANGER IN THE DEEP BLUE SEA **CHAPTER 8/MATH**

Name:	Date:
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In Danger in the Deep Blue Sea, the great white shark is twenty feet long. Use a measuring tape to find three other things that are twenty feet long. You may have to use more than one measuring tape!

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

Lionfish are about one foot long. Find three things that are one foot long.

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

A great white shark's tooth can be three inches long. Find three things that are three inches long.

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

Kiki sleeps in a goblin shark skeleton. Goblin sharks can be twelve feet long. Find three things that are twelve feet long.

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

Box jellyfish (the most dangerous jellyfish) grow to be up to ten inches wide. Find three things that are ten inches wide.

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

In real life, giant clams grow up to five feet. Find three things that are five feet wide.

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

MERMAID TALES

DANGER IN THE DEEP BLUE SEA

CHAPTER 9/ECOLOGY

Name:

Date:

Can you believe that sharks are needed in the ocean? Without sharks, the ocean's ecosystem is off balance. Sharks feed on injured and weak fish, keeping schools of fish healthy. Because of heavy commercial fishing, sharks numbers are decreasing. This decrease could be disastrous to the ocean's food chain, including the fish the world relies on for food.

While it is true that some sharks have bitten humans, do you know that you are more likely to be struck by lightning or bit by a dog than bit by a shark? Did you know that the smallest shark is only a few inches long? Did you know that some shark have no teeth at all? Did you know that the whale shark is the biggest fish in the ocean? It only eats plankton and small fish.

Answer true or false to the questons below:

1. Sharks are needed in the ocean. _____
2. The great white shark is the biggest fish in the ocean. _____
3. Without sharks, the ocean's ecosystem is off balance. _____
4. Sharks bite less people than dogs. _____
5. You are more likely to get hit by lightning that bit by a shark. _____
6. Without sharks, schools of fish would be diseased. _____
7. The smallest shark is only a few inches long. _____
8. Some types of sharks have no teeth at all. _____
9. The whale shark eats only people and mermaids. _____
10. Commercial fishing has reduced the number of sharks in the world. _____

MERMAID TALES ANSWERS

DANGER IN THE DEEP BLUE SEA

CHAPTER 9/ECOLOGY

Name:	Date:
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Can you believe that sharks are needed in the ocean? Without sharks, the ocean's ecosystem is off balance. Sharks feed on injured and weak fish, keeping schools of fish healthy. Because of heavy commercial fishing, sharks numbers are decreasing. This decrease could be disastrous to the ocean's food chain, including the fish the world relies on for food.

While it is true that some sharks have bitten humans, do you know that you are more likely to be struck by lightning or bit by a dog than bit by a shark? Did you know that the smallest shark is only a few inches long? Did you know that some shark have no teeth at all? Did you know that the whale shark is the biggest fish in the ocean? It only eats plankton and small fish.

Answer true or false to the questions below:

1. Sharks are needed in the ocean. _____ **true** _____
2. The great white shark is the biggest fish in the ocean. _____ **false** _____
3. Without sharks, the ocean's ecosystem is off balance. _____ **true** _____
4. Sharks bite less people than dogs. _____ **true** _____
5. You are more likely to get hit by lightning that bit by a shark. _____ **true** _____
6. Without sharks, schools of fish would be diseased. _____ **true** _____
7. The smallest shark is only a few inches long. _____ **true** _____
8. Some types of sharks have no teeth at all. _____ **true** _____
9. The whale shark eats only people and mermaids. _____ **false** _____
10. Commercial fishing has reduced the number of sharks in the world. _____ **true** _____