

# Sharks vs People

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FROM: Ruth A. Musgrave  
TO: Virtual Team Members  
SUBJECT: Sharks In the News

Hi Team Shark,

Many people are terrified of sharks. Why? Let's start with the news.

**TERRIFYING ATTACK...  
VICIOUS SHARK...  
SHARK RIPS INTO DEAD WHALE...**

These are just a few of the headlines from the past few months relating to sharks.

Compare that with headlines about whales...

**SEARCH CONTINUES FOR INJURED WHALE...  
COAST CLOSED TO FISHING TO PROTECT KILLER WHALES...  
WHALE RESCUE UNDERWAY FOR DISTRESSED' WHALE...**

I have some questions for you.

- *Do these headlines sound the same? Why or why not?*
- *What do these headlines suggest about sharks? What do they suggest about whales?*
- *How do such headlines affect how people think about sharks?*
- *Why do you think the news approaches stories sharks in one way and whales in another?*

Do you think sharks should be portrayed this way? What can we do to encourage a change? I'd love to hear your thoughts.

*Ruth*

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