

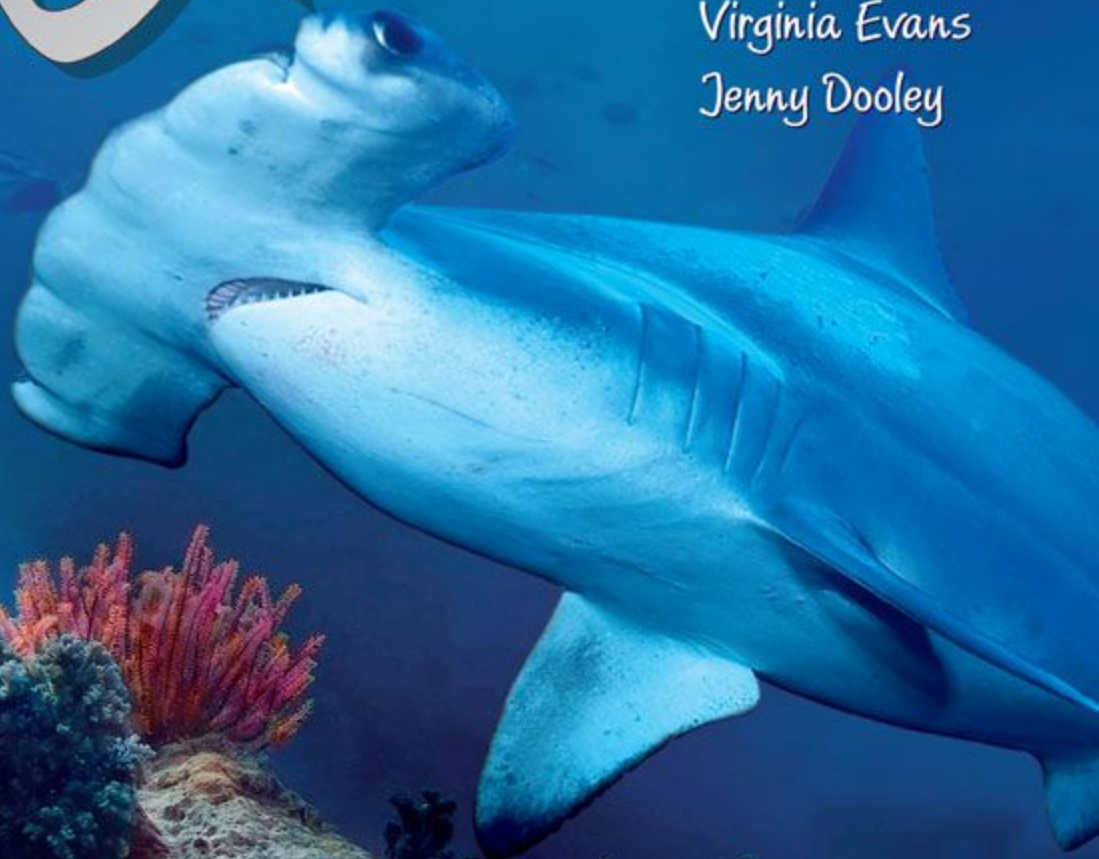
DISCOVER
our AMAZING
WORLD

CLIL READERS

THE HAMMERHEAD

Shark

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Express Publishing

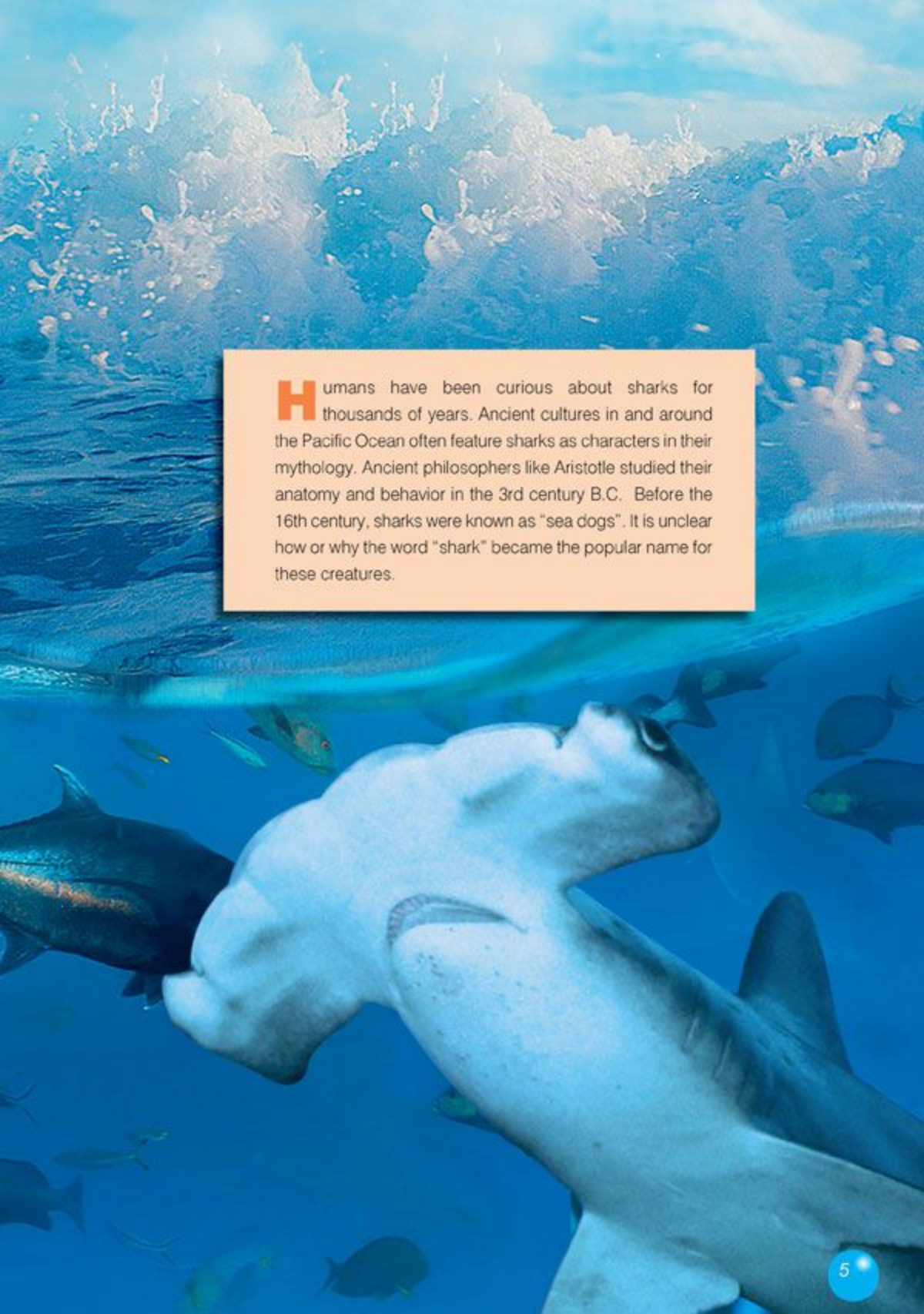
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Sharks



Shark teeth and other fossils left behind by ancient sharks suggest that the first sharks appeared around 420 million years ago. If this is true, then sharks existed before animals, and maybe even plants, moved out of the ocean and onto dry land. Despite the fact that they may have been around for nearly half of a billion years, sharks have not changed much. They have evolved into different shapes and sizes, but many of the traits of current sharks have probably existed for hundreds of millions of years.



Humans have been curious about sharks for thousands of years. Ancient cultures in and around the Pacific Ocean often feature sharks as characters in their mythology. Ancient philosophers like Aristotle studied their anatomy and behavior in the 3rd century B.C. Before the 16th century, sharks were known as “sea dogs”. It is unclear how or why the word “shark” became the popular name for these creatures.

A hammerhead shark is shown swimming in clear blue water. The shark's head is uniquely shaped, extending left and right like a hammer. It is positioned above a vibrant coral reef. The background shows the sunlit surface of the water.

The

Hammerhead Shark

Hammerheads are a group of a few different species of sharks. The thing that all hammerheads have in common, and what they owe their name to, is the odd shape of their heads, which extend left and right, resembling a hammer. Because of the strange shapes of their heads, hammerhead sharks have slightly different ways of sensing the world than other creatures. This is mainly due to the fact that hammerheads' eyes and nostrils are at the ends of their head extensions.