2 Working with animals

Reading

Before reading

1 Discuss these questions.
   1 What do you know about sharks?
   2 Are you afraid of sharks?
   3 Do you think sharks are clever animals?

2 02 Read and listen.



Sarah Turner

shark trainer

Sarah Turner has an unusual job.
She trains sharks at the Sea Life Centre.
We asked Sarah a few questions to find out more about her job.

Why did you become a shark trainer?

I've always loved sharks. They're amazing creatures and they're very clever. Lots of people are scared of them, of course. I want to learn more about them so that I can teach people not to be scared.

What do you do at work?

I usually feed, study and train the sharks here at the Sea Life Centre. The sharks live in huge tanks. I also study sharks in their natural habitat. You need to be brave to dive with a video camera to film the sharks in the sea!

How do you train the sharks at the Sea Life Centre?

We teach them to touch a special button to get food. There is a different button for every species of shark here. Every button is a different colour and has a different pattern on it. The sharks learn to recognize their button and press it with their noses when they are hungry. We move the buttons around the tank so that the sharks learn to follow them.

What does this teach us about sharks?

Many things. It tells us that sharks can understand and remember. They understand that one button means "food", although it doesn't look like food. And when we put the button in a different place, they still remember it.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Why do you train the sharks?

Sharks usually stay in groups. We want to teach the sharks to come to special places so that we can study them and check their health. We start by teaching them to come to different places to get food. We have to teach them one thing at a time. Sharks get scared when you try to do lots of things at once.

What other things have you learnt about sharks?

I've learnt a lot about their eating habits and routines. I've also learnt that all sharks have different personalities. One of the young sharks here likes to chase the bigger sharks. She also likes to play with her food. I hope my work will teach people that sharks are not monsters. They are often clever, funny creatures.



Vocabulary

3 Match the words from the text to the definitions.

1 recognize *(verb)* to know again something that you have seen before
2 _____ *(verb)* to keep something in your memory
3 _____ *(verb)* to know what something means or why something happens
4 _____ *(verb)* to want something to happen
5 _____ *(verb)* to teach a person or an animal to do something
6 _____ *(noun)* a group of animals that are the same
7 _____ *(noun)* the natural place where an animal lives
8 _____ *(noun)* a large container that holds liquid
9 _____ *(noun)* shapes and colours on something
10 _____ *(noun)* things that a person or animal does often

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Reading comprehension

4 Write *True* or *False*.

1 Sarah works in a fish shop. False
2 Sarah doesn't want people to be scared of sharks. _____
3 The sharks learn to touch a button to get food. _____
4 The sharks learn to move the button around the tank. _____
5 The sharks think that the buttons are food. _____
6 The sharks learn that one button means "food". _____
7 Sarah has learnt that all sharks have different personalities. _____
8 Sarah's job has taught her that sharks are monsters. _____

5 Match the two parts of the sentences.

1	Sarah's job is	a	sharks in the sea.
2	She became a shark trainer because	b	the older sharks.
3	The sharks live	c	she's always loved sharks.
4	Sometimes Sarah films	d	one thing at a time.
5	The sharks don't forget the food button	e	very unusual.
6	Sarah teaches the sharks	f	clever and funny.
7	One young shark chases	g	in a big tank.
8	Sharks can be	h	when Sarah moves it.

6 Complete the facts. Write one word in each gap.

1 Sarah works at the Sea Life Centre.
2 She wants to learn more about _____.
3 Sarah sometimes _____ in the sea with a video camera.
4 She teaches the sharks to press _____ with their noses.
5 When the sharks press the correct button, Sarah gives them _____.
6 Sarah wants to check the sharks' _____.
7 Sharks _____ like doing lots of things at once.
8 There is one _____ shark that likes to play with her food.

LIVEWORKSHEETS