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Animals of Shark Bay

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Tiger shark



Department of
Environment and Conservation

Our environment, our future



For ages 4 and up

Tiger shark

(*Galeocerdo cuvier*)

Tiger sharks get their name from the distinctive stripes down their body that fade as they get older. To catch their prey, sharks use receptors along their side to detect vibrations and special pores in their snouts that detect electrical fields generated by the muscles of their prey. They give birth to live young.

Length: 4–6.5 metres

Weight: Up to 635 kilograms

Distribution Map



■ Distribution world wide

Habitat: The tiger shark inhabits inshore waters, deeper offshore areas and reefs and prefers warmer waters. In Shark Bay they are most common in the summer months.

Diet: It is a top predator, feeding on fish, sea snakes, dugongs, seals, dolphins, turtles, rays and smaller sharks.