

Name _____

Sharks: The Apex Predators of the Ocean

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. One adaptation that sharks have for hunting and feeding is their rows of sharp, triangular teeth, which are continuously replaced throughout their lives.
2. Sharks contribute to maintaining biodiversity in ocean ecosystems by controlling prey populations and preventing any one species from dominating the ecosystem.
3. It is important to protect shark populations because they play a crucial role in maintaining the balance of ocean ecosystems, and their decline can have cascading effects on other species.
4. Sharks differ from bony fish in terms of reproduction because they give birth to live young instead of laying eggs.

