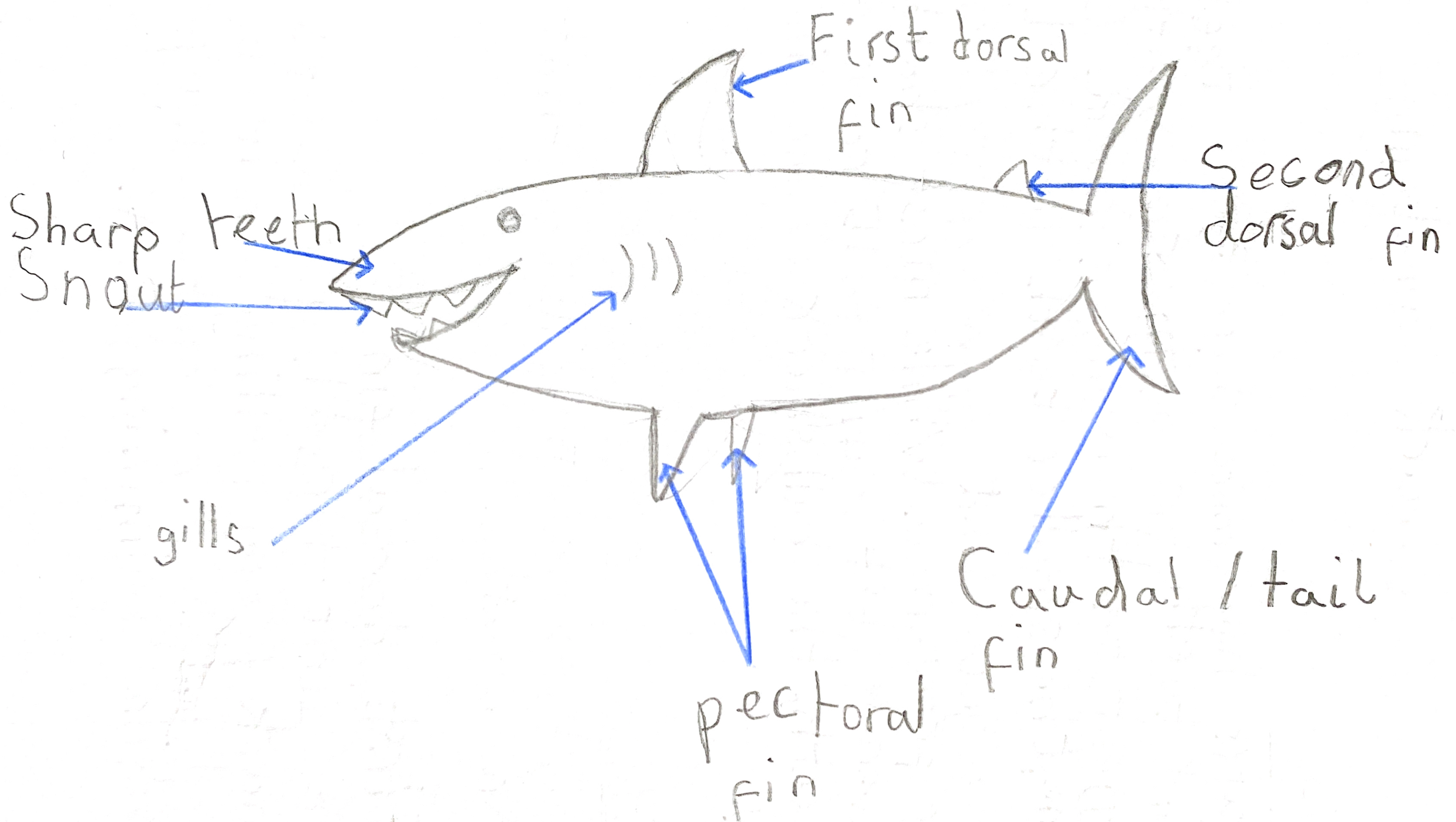


SHARKS



Shark anatomy

Teeth

Sharks have more than 3,000 teeth. Shark teeth grow in rows, with the biggest teeth facing outward. Over time, the smaller teeth in the last row grow and move up, replacing the front row. While most sharks average between 5 to 15 rows of teeth, the bull shark comes in at 50!

Gills

Sharks have 5 gills so that they can breathe.

First dorsal fin

The first dorsal fin keeps a shark from rolling on its back and helps it to make sharp turns while swimming fast.

Second dorsal fin

The second dorsal fin helps the shark swim steadily and move the back of it's body.

Caudal/tail fin

The caudal/tail fin is used to propel the shark forwards, increasing or decreasing speed.

Pectoral fins

Pectoral fins are often long and are used to keep the shark from sinking to the bottom of the ocean, as well as for steering the fish.

Where do they live?

Sharks live in every ocean in the world. They live in warm water and even lakes.

Sharks can live near the water surface or on the ocean floor. Some live near the shore where as others live near the coral reef.

What do sharks eat

Sharks mainly feed on smaller fish. Some of the other larger sharks prey on seals, sea lions, and other marine mammals. Sharks have also been known to attack humans when they are confused.

What is special about sharks?

1. Sharks do not have bones. They are fish made of cartilage - the gristly stuff that your ears and nose tip are made of.
2. Sharks skin feels similar to sandpaper because it has tiny scales.
3. Sharks have been around a very long time, approximately 455 million years.
4. Some sharks have very wide mouths, like the great white. The great white is the closest relative to the megalodon.