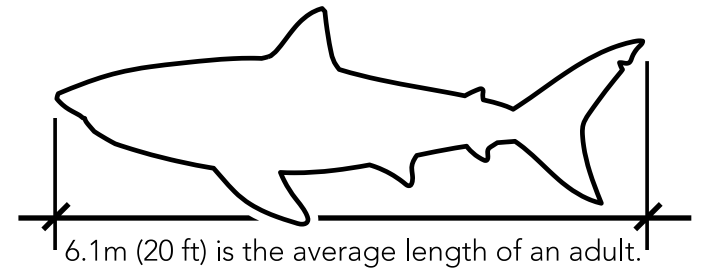


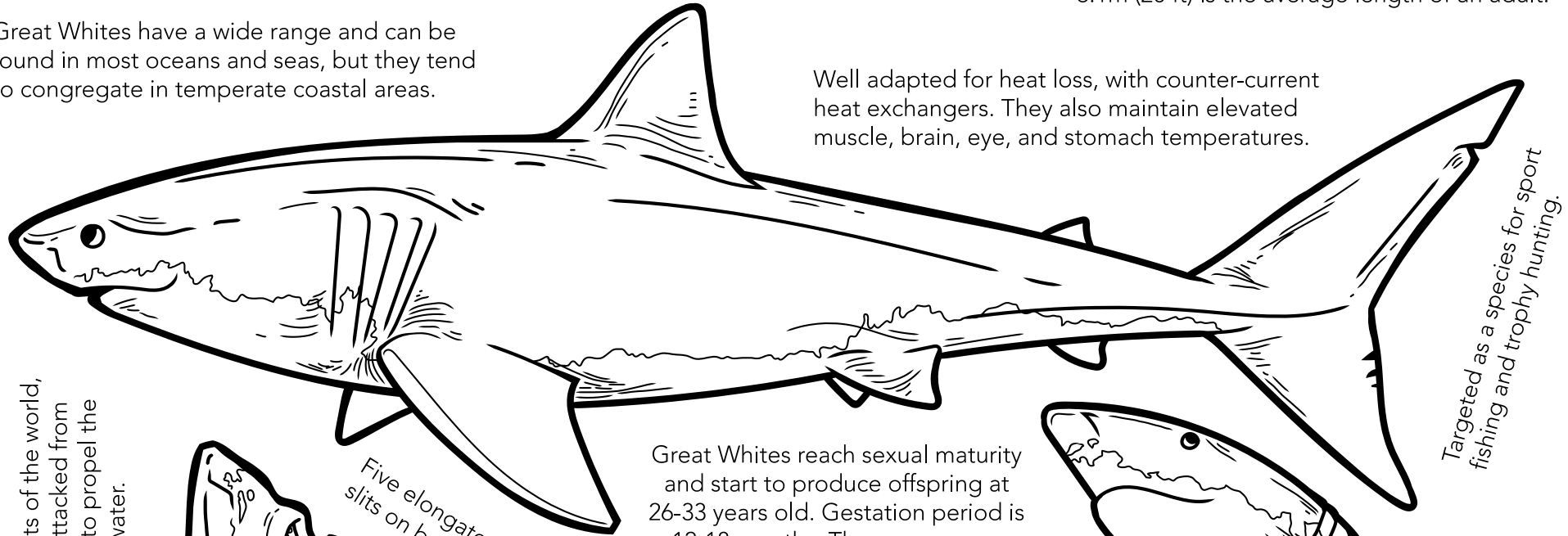
# GREAT WHITE SHARK

Scientific name: *Carcharodon carcharias*



Great Whites have a wide range and can be found in most oceans and seas, but they tend to congregate in temperate coastal areas.

Well adapted for heat loss, with counter-current heat exchangers. They also maintain elevated muscle, brain, eye, and stomach temperatures.



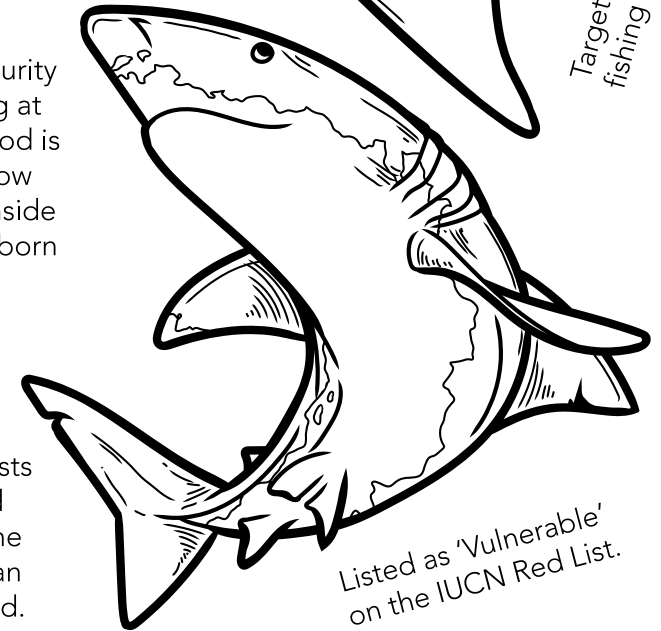
Targeted as a species for sport fishing and trophy hunting.

Breaching occurs in some parts of the world, such as South Africa. Prey is attacked from below with enough speed to propel the shark upward and out of the water.

Five elongated gill slits on both sides.

Great Whites reach sexual maturity and start to produce offspring at 26-33 years old. Gestation period is 12-18 months. The young grow inside an egg which hatches inside the mother, and then they are born live ("ovoviviparous").

Preferred food source consists of marine vertebrates and mammals, bony fish, and the occasional seabird. They can last 1-2 months without food.



Listed as 'Vulnerable' on the IUCN Red List.