

Port Jackson Sharks

Fact sheet

What do they look like?

They have a blunt head and markings across their body, as though they were wearing a harness.

Where do they live?

Port Jackson sharks are commonly found along the coasts of southern Australia, including Victoria and New South Wales, along rocky reefs and coastal areas.

What do they eat and how?

Sea urchins, molluscs, crustaceans and fish. Their jaw is specially shaped to crush hard shells. It works like a grinding plate.

Are they dangerous to humans?

They are thought to be harmless to humans, but we should still play it safe!



Fun fact!

They have the rare ability to eat and breathe at the same time! This is due to spiracles (pumping water over their gills)

Fun fact!

Port Jackson sharks lay spiral-shaped eggs. They look like seaweed. Mum lays the egg, then puts it in her mouth and uses the spiral shape to hide her egg amongst the rocks. The eggs are made out of keratin, the same protein as our hair and nails! Baby sharks hatch fully formed and can survive on their own

Fun fact!

They grow to about 1.5 metres long, and are mostly active at night (nocturnal), often choosing to rest on the ocean floor during the day

