



BLUE SHARK (*Prionace glauca*)

1. BLUE SHARKS HAVE LONG PECTORAL FINS AND ARE EASILY IDENTIFIED BY THEIR INDIGO COLORING.
2. THEY ARE PELAGIC AND RARELY COME CLOSE TO SHORE. THEY ARE FOUND WORLD WIDE IN TEMPERATE AND TROPICAL WATERS FROM THE SURFACE TO DEPTHS OF 600 METERS.
3. BLUE SHARKS GIVE BIRTH TO LIVE YOUNG AFTER A GESTATION PERIOD OF 9-12 MONTHS, WITH THE AVERAGE LITER SIZE BEING 35 PUPS.
4. THEY ARE HIGHLY MIGRATORY AND ARE KNOWN TO SWIM ACROSS THE ATLANTIC OCEAN USING CURRENT SYSTEMS LIKE THE GULF STREAM.
5. THEY ARE LISTED AS NEAR THREATENED ON THE IUCN RED LIST AND ARE TAKEN IN LARGE NUMBERS PRIMARILY AS BY-CATCH IN LONGLINE AND DRIFTNET FISHERIES, BUT ARE ALSO HEAVILY FISHED FOR THEIR FINS.



Image: Tom Burns

www.sharks4kids.com