



Scientific name: Etmopterus spinax

The **Velvet Belly Lanternshark** is bioluminescent like other lanternsharks. They have light-emitting photophores (glandular organs) that form specific patterns over their abdomen and flanks. The shark's bioluminescence may also serve a social function aiding communication between members of the same species.

This deepwater shark is found in the east Atlantic Ocean from Iceland to Gabon in the western Mediterranean, the Azores, the

The **Velvet Belly Laternshark's** bioluminescence serves as a method of camouflage. This technique, called countershading, helps camouflage the shark against upward-looking predators and prey.

The Velvet Belly Lanternshark is classified

as "Least Concern" on the IUCN Red List.

The Velvet Belly Lanternshark can reach a maximum of 55 cm (1.8 ft).

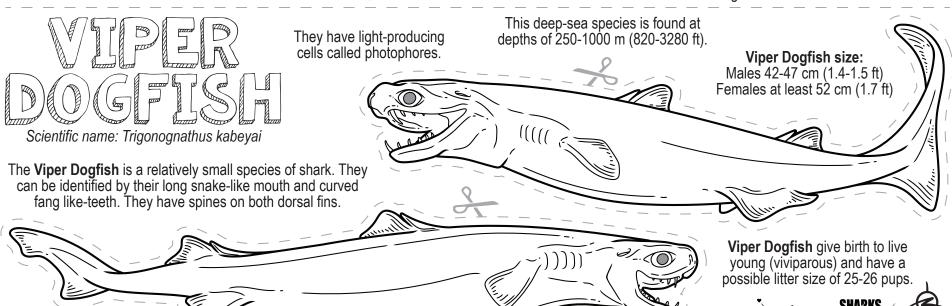


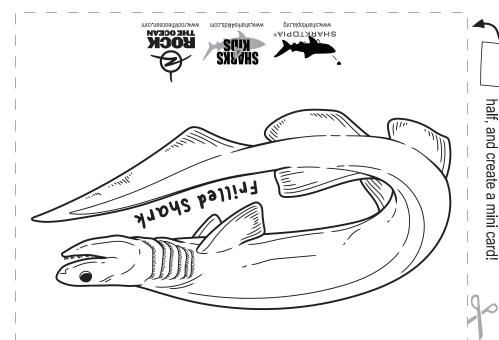
Color the sharks and cut along the dashed lines. You can use them to create bookmarks, gift tags, paper puppets (just attach a stick), etc! You can also cut out the 'fun facts' and glue them onto the back of the sharks!

www.sharktopia.org

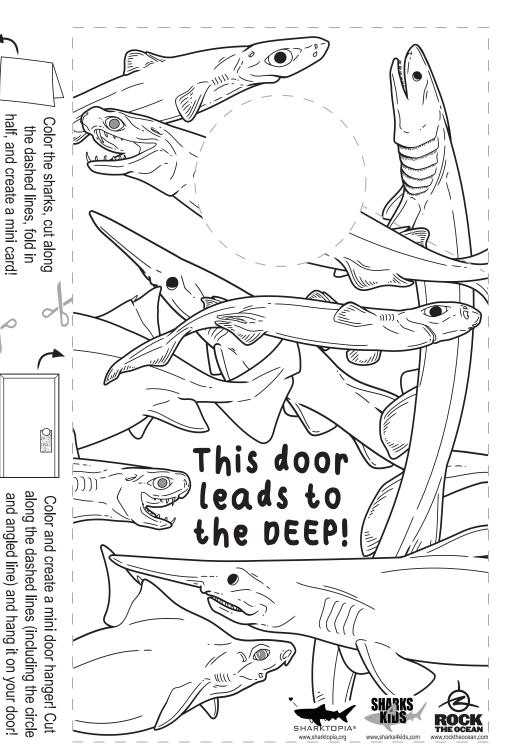
www.sharks4kids.com











SHARKTASTIC WORD SEARCH

G Z M \mathbf{F} \mathbf{E} Р R В Μ R RILL \mathbf{E} $S \times W \times Y$ \mathbf{F} S

Dive into this word search and find the 13 words below!

Hint: They are only horizontal and vertical - not diagonal.

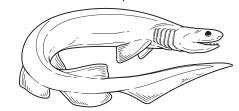
GOBLINSHARK BIOLUMINESCENT DEEPWATER PEPEKE PHOTOPHORES

LANTERNSHARK FRILLEDSHARK VIPERDOGFISH CARBONIFEROUS

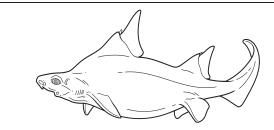
VIVIPAROUS MITSUKURINIDAE PRICKLYDOGFISH VELVETBELLY

Name these sharks!

Write the name of each species on the lines below.



2.



3.

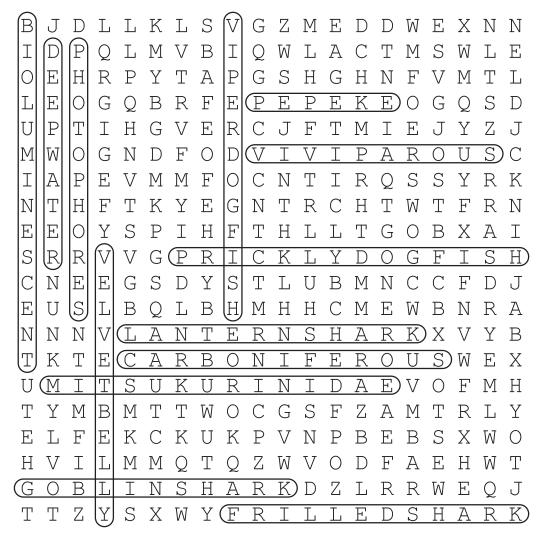
4.



5.



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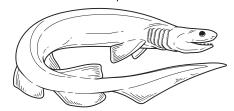
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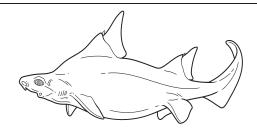
Write the name of each species on the lines below.



I. FRILLED SHARK



2. GOBLINSHARK



3. PRICKLY DOGFISH



4. VELVET BELLY LANTERNSHARK



5. VIPER DOGFISH





