

# How Do Sharks FLOAT?

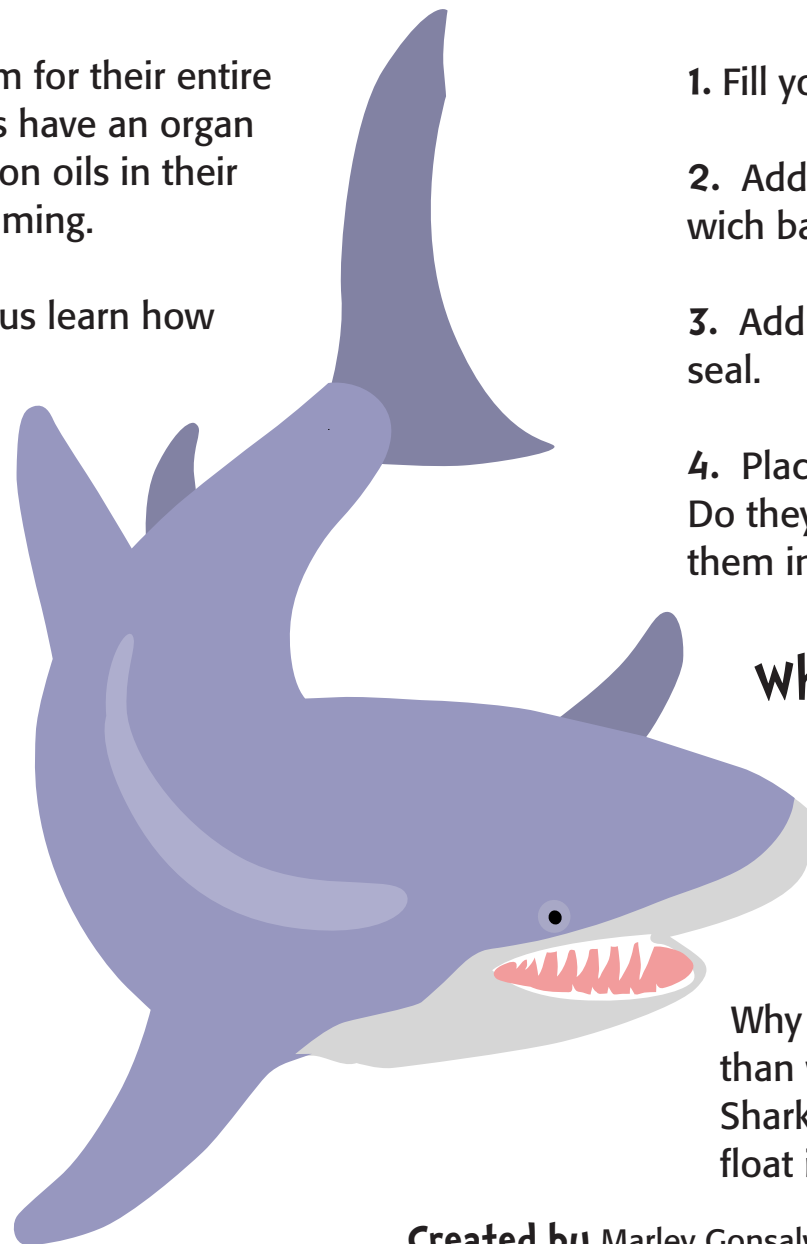


Sharks are large fish that swim for their entire lives. Just like humans, sharks have an organ called a liver. Sharks depend on oils in their liver to help them keep swimming.

This demonstration will help us learn how this oil works.

## You will need:

A clear bin or dishpan  
Two zip sandwich bags  
A cup of water  
A cup of vegetable oil



1. Fill your bin about halfway with water.
2. Add one cup of water to one of your sandwich bags and seal.
3. Add one cup of oil to the other bag and seal.
4. Place both bags into your bin and observe. Do they float or sink? What happens if you put them in vertically or horizontally?

## What Happened?

The bag of water probably sank. The density of the water in the bag is the same as the water in the bin. The bag of oil probably floated.

Why do you think this is? Oil is less dense than water, so it floats on top of the water. Sharks livers are oily, which helps them to float in the ocean.

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