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Smart About Sharks



Synopsis

It's time to learn about the sea's most feared (and most misunderstood) residents: sharks! Owen Davey returns to nonfiction to explain the mysteries of those denizens of the deep. Some deadly, some not-so-deadly, and almost all just generally misunderstood. Exciting and detailed illustrations fill the page and educate young readers about these thrilling residents of the sea! Delivering information with the same whimsical text and brash illustration that saw his previous book win the affection of the Wall Street Journal, *Smart About Sharks* is sure to have teeth! Owen Davey is a freelance illustrator, living and working out of Leicester, United Kingdom. He graduated with a First Class BA in Illustration from Falmouth University. Davey's work has been published in every continent (except Antarctica), including picture books in the United Kingdom, America, Australia, Germany, France, Portugal, China, and Korea. He has worked for some impressive clients, including the New York Times, Microsoft, and Orange. This is his first book about sharks.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1120 (What's this?)

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Flying Eye Books (August 9, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1909263915

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Product Dimensions: 9.3 x 0.5 x 11.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.9 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 16 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #109,990 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #11 in [Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Zoology > Ichthyology](#) #41 in [Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Animals > Fish & Sharks](#) #89 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Baby Animals](#)

Age Range: 6 and up

Grade Level: Kindergarten and up

Customer Reviews

Gr 1-4 • Tongue-in-cheek headings, descriptive text, and art with a retro color palette make this an alternative take on the typical shark book. As fun to read as it is informative,

this title covers the diet, hunting techniques, social life, size, and biology of eight orders of sharks. The layout is well designed, and the illustrations, rendered digitally, are appealing and detailed. The color palette consists of earth tones, muted golds and turquoise, and corals—colors perfectly suited to the undersea world of sharks. Some subjects receive an entire spread, such as the body diagram of a Caribbean reef shark. The work culminates with a warning that much of the shark population is at risk and a brief explanation as to why. Tips for ecologically sensitive living that are accessible for readers (recycling plastic, eating sustainable seafood, and being aware of energy usage) are also included. VERDICT Consider this amusing and edifying work for summer displays and artsy kids who also happen to like sharks. —Gretchen Crowley, Alexandria City Public Libraries, VA

It's an engaging and visually sophisticated addition to shark-lovers' libraries. —Publishers Weekly This book's engaging informative content is rivaled only by its uncommonly sophisticated illustrations. [...] An all-around superior nonfiction resource. —Booklist I love children's books that are as delicious for kids as they are for adults, and *Smart About Sharks* is exactly that. With a sumptuous textured cloth cover, an appealing gray-tinted palette of earth tones playfully punctuated by pink, and a retro encyclopedic design, *Smart* is filled with fascinating bite-sized shark facts that were completely new to me. —BoingBoing A beautifully illustrated compendium of facts about sharks [...] —Creative Review Kids love sharks. Owen Davey's *Smart About Sharks* is going to jump off the shelves and demand to go home with these kids. What's not to love? There are great infographics giving out wild information (wait until you see all the different kinds of teeth found in sharks across the world), bright, brilliant artwork with a retro feel to it, and tons of facts about sharks, including a debunking of their status as man-eaters: if you're on a surfboard, you look like a seal, and the book has the artwork to prove it. —Books For Kids The skillful assembly of geometric shapes and patterns captures the essence of [Davey's] carnivorous, cartilaginous subjects. —Science Friday "Smart About Sharks," by Owen Davey, has illustrations to die for and fun facts to marvel at. —Campus Circle Each page is perfectly balanced with educational facts intermixed with lively sharks that look as if they are swimming in and out of the pages. This well researched book will immerse all readers in fascinating facts about the most well-known predator of the seas. —OmniLibros I learned a great deal that I didn't know about sharks, and I think that a 7 or 8-year-old would have a great time with this book. [...] More importantly, this book is a great introduction to nonfiction reading for children. —The

Cyberlibrarian

PRAISE FOR PREVIOUS BOOKS BY OWEN DAVEY

On Owen's previous book in the series, *Mad About Monkeys*, an ALSC Notable Children's Book Tackling a topic as general as monkeys is a tall order for a picture book, but this one succeeds admirably. [...] Davey keeps things lively by relating specific traits of various monkey species [...] and these serve not only to pique readers' curiosity, but also to highlight the primates' diversity. The design of the book is stellar, interweaving text and stylized-but-accurate illustrations into a vibrant, cohesive whole that stands out for its appeal and clarity. A vast amount of information on monkeys is expertly delivered in both text and image without patronizing either readers or monkeys. —*œa delight*. —*œKirkus Reviews, Starred Review* A semi-irreverent tone and stylish images combine to create an arresting and informative guide to simian nature. —*œPublishers Weekly* Full of bared fangs, long tails and witty descriptions, this elegant book is likely to commend itself even to readers a good deal older than those for whom it is designed. —*œWall Street Journal* Davey's striking illustrations and bold graphic design are the highlights of this compendium of facts about monkeys. He deftly draws on their varied and unusual physical features to produce eye-catching images that will attract browsers. —*œSchool Library Journal* Owen Davey presents a stunning and richly informative primer on these marvelous primates. [...] With art that calls to mind Charley Harper and the golden age of mid-century children's book illustration, Davey explores the glorious diversity of these weird and wonderful creatures, their sophisticated social life, and their elaborate communication style [...] —*œBrain Pickings* This nonfiction picture book colorfully and innovatively educates readers about various types of monkeys from around the world without being pedantic. Jazzy illustrations resembling a graphic arts styled poster accurately depict several species of monkeys. [...] helpful examples, guiding illustrations, and comical phrases like "But why such colorful bums?" —*œI hear you ask* —*œ* will leave readers feeling like they are on a lively safari. —*œOmniLibros* On Owen Davey's children's book, *Night Knight*: An outstanding picture book. —*œThe Guardian* "Davey, a British illustrator, uses a striking palette of ocher, orange and cinnamon in this delightful debut, which recreates the imaginative pre-bedtime rituals of the aspiring titular knight. Simple, sweet and bound to induce sleep." —*œThe New York Times* Davey creates a visually striking celebration of the last imaginative hurrah before bedtime. —*œPublishers Weekly* Every spread of this visually stunning British import is suitable for framing. Hip, stylized, beautifully composed cut-paper collages evoke the rich ornamentation of any self-respecting medieval fantasy, all saturated in a warm palette of deep gold, burgundy, rusts and oranges on what looks like handmade paper... A visual feast for very youngest fans of knights and castles. —*œKirkus Reviews* On Davey's previous

book, Laika:Owen's trademark folky style makes his wordless books just as appealing to adults as they are to children, allowing him to bridge gaps between audiences in the most effortless of ways. Nice That

Such a cute and informative book on sharks! We bought this for our shark-obsessed daughter and she loves the pictures. It keeps her entertained for 20 minutes at a time, and in toddler-time that is GREAT.

Came in the mail today. Read right away- my 4 year old daughter loves it and so do I! Colorful images, clear and simplistic wording, several different ways to cover the text so will not lead to boredom. (Guess which shark this is, who's tooth is this, counting, naming, label the parts...)There is also a great page with images dispelling the man-eater myth which was reassuring for my 4 year old.Highly recommend this book to elementary school teachers and any parent of a shark lover!Very impressed and already added Davies new book about cats to my cart.

Shark facts and info presented in the most eye appealing manner. My 9 yr old loved this book and I did too! Hoping the author will be adding more animal books to his collection.

LOVE THIS BOOK! beautiful illustrations and edition

My son loves this book and reads to us from it regularly. Beautiful, stylized illustrations and enough cool shark facts to keep him interested for a long time to come.

the graphics are beautiful and there are lots of interesting facts and information about a variety of sharks. my ocean-obsessed son loves this book.

I loved it! The golden details of the cover, the paper, the illustrations and texts are simply beautiful.

Very nice book but one of the corners was squished/jammed in.

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