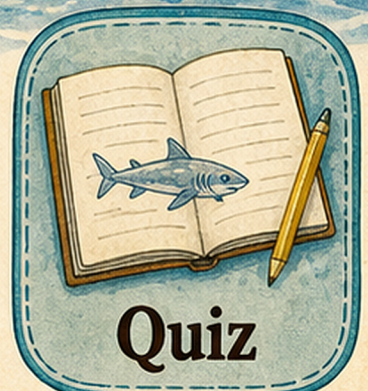
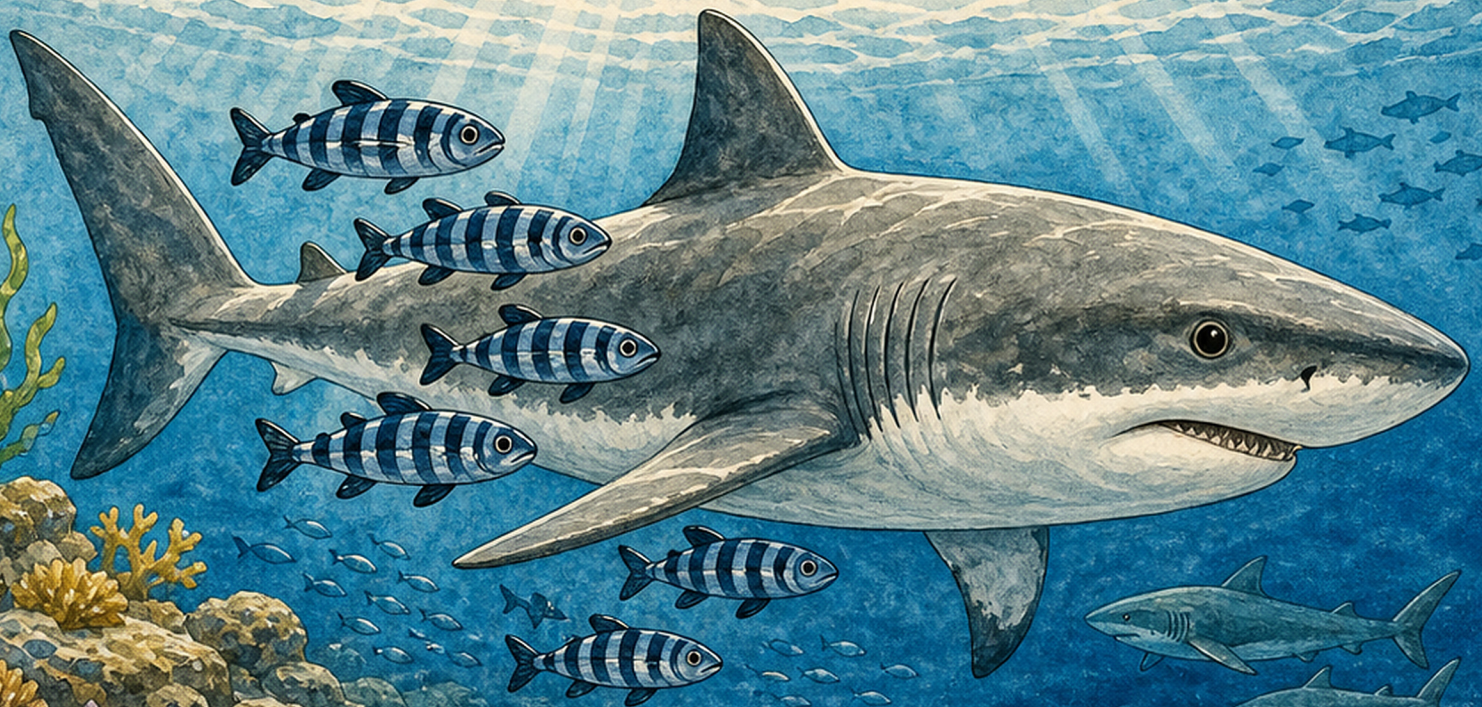


# Pilot Fish and Sharks Workbook

A printable AnimalSake activity pack

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



# Why Pilot Fish Swim Near Sharks

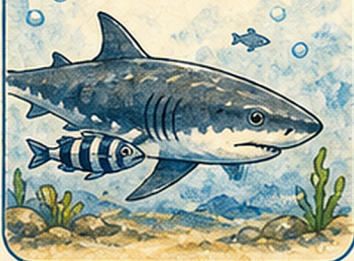
Animal relationships can be surprising.



1

## Close swimmers

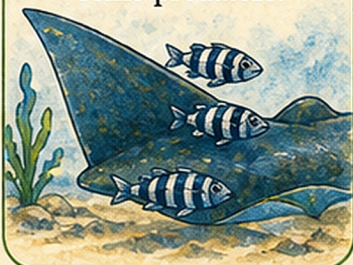
Pilot fish often swim near large sharks, rays, or sea turtles.



2

## Possible protection

Being near a large animal may help pilot fish avoid some predators.



3

## Leftover food

Pilot fish may eat tiny scraps or small bits stirred up nearby.



4

## Shark effect

The shark is usually not bothered by the pilot fish.

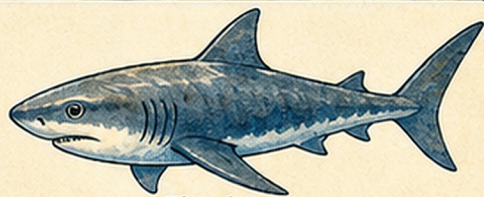


## Relationship word

When one animal benefits and the other is not helped or harmed, scientists call it **commensalism**.



Pilot fish benefits



Shark not helped or harmed

## Quick Words



**Commensalism:** one animal benefits while the other is not harmed

**Host:** the larger animal in the relationship

**Benefit:** something helpful



# Who Benefits?

Look for clues in an animal relationship.

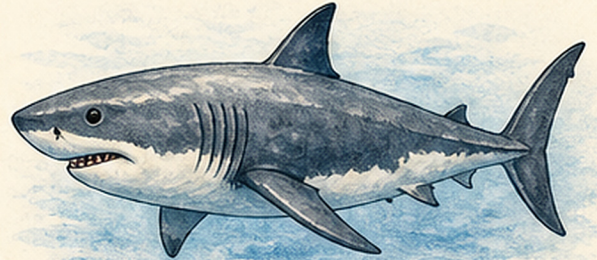
## Pilot fish

- ✓ Benefits from protection
- ✓ May eat leftovers
- ✓ Swims near a larger animal



## Shark

- ✓ Usually not bothered
- ✓ Keeps swimming normally
- ✓ Does not need the pilot fish



Relationship:



Pilot fish swim with sharks.

## Sort the clues

Benefits pilot fish:

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Benefits shark:

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No clear effect:

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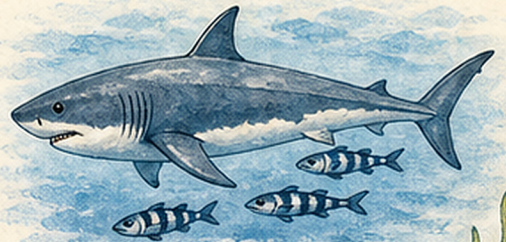
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## Science sentence

This relationship is likely \_\_\_\_\_

because \_\_\_\_\_

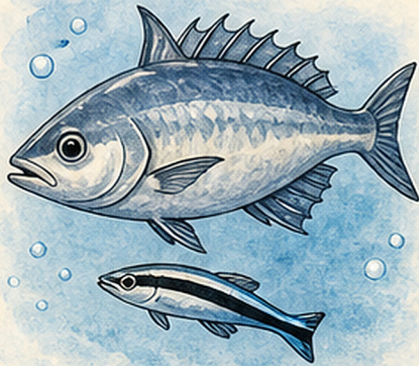


# Compare Animal Relationships

Different relationships have different effects.

## Mutualism

Both animals benefit.

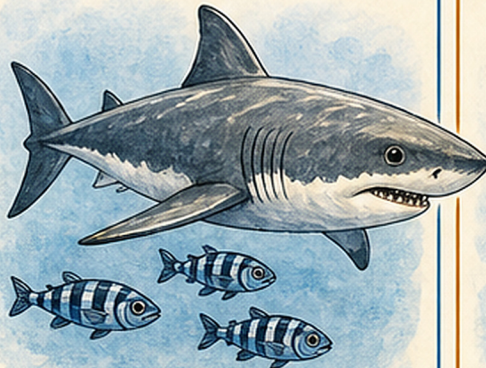


**Example:**  
cleaner fish may remove  
tiny parasites from a  
larger fish.



## Commensalism

One animal benefits.  
The other is not harmed.

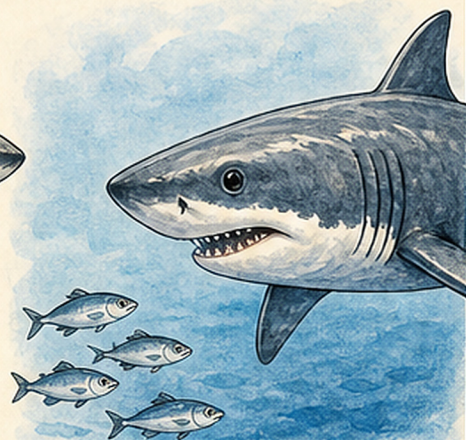


**Example:**  
pilot fish swimming  
near a shark.

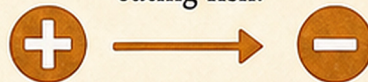


## Predation

One animal hunts and  
eats another animal.



**Example:**  
a shark  
eating fish.



## Compare



Pilot fish and shark is most like: \_\_\_\_\_



My evidence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# Ocean Relationship Observation Log

Study pilot fish and sharks from a video, book, aquarium, or article.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Source: video / book / aquarium / article

## Animals I observed:

- pilot fish
- shark
- other: \_\_\_\_\_

## Relationship clues I noticed:

- swimming close
- staying near a larger animal
- feeding nearby
- shark not bothered
- moving as a group

## What did the pilot fish do?

\_\_\_\_\_

## What did the shark do?

\_\_\_\_\_

## Draw the ocean relationship

Large dashed box for drawing the ocean relationship.



I noticed: \_\_\_\_\_



Question I have: \_\_\_\_\_



Pilot fish benefits



Shark not harmed



## Care note

Observe marine animals respectfully and from a safe distance.



