

1 **The Odd Man Out**

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2 **The Hammerhead Overview**

- Kingdom: Animalia
- Phylum: Chordata
- Class: Chondrichthyes
- Subclass: Elasmobranchii
- Order: Carcharhiniformes
- Family: Sphyrnidae
- Genus: Sphyrna
- The nine species of hammerhead range from 6 to 20 feet
- All species have the flattened hammer shaped head which draws so much attention to this particular shark.

3 **Overview**

- Hammerheads are aggressive predators who eat everything from rays to crustaceans.
- Found throughout tropical and temperate seas.
- Usually settle along coastlines and continental shelves

4 **What Does it Do?**

- The Hammerhead's head region has always been covered in mystery as to why it was shaped like that.
- Now researchers believe that the large flattened extensions of the head give the Hammerhead a hydroplane like lift and help them make sharper turns than other sharks
- This is very helpful in the hammerheads case because hammerheads are one of the most negatively buoyant of sharks.

5 **The Mystery cont'd**

- Having the eyes and nostrils at the ends of the head region gives the shark a greater ability to track prey.

6 **How it Helps**

- Like all other sharks, hammerheads have sensory pores called ampullae of Lorenzini.
- But by spreading these sensory organs over a wider area, hammerheads can sweep for prey more effectively than any other shark.
- Hammerheads can sense an electrical signal of half a billionth of a volt.
- The odd shaped head also gives Hammerhead sharks bigger nasal tracts, which raises the chance of finding things such as prey in the water ten times as compared to other sharks

7 **Where it Came From**

- Since Sharks are cartilaginous and do not have mineralized bones, they rarely fossilize so it is extremely difficult to study ancient sharks.
- This is why their teeth are commonly found as fossils and used to study.
- The hammerhead shark seem to be related to the carcharhinid sharks which evolved during the tertiary period and include species such as the tiger and bull shark
- Scientists believe that the first hammerhead that appeared resembled the winghead shark which has a much larger hammer than present day Hammerheads.

8 **Species of Hammerheads**

- Scalloped Hammer Head
- Great Hammerhead
- Smooth Hammerhead
- White Fin Hammerhead
- Bonnethead hammerhead
- Scoop Head
- Squarehead shark
- Shovelhead
- Smalleye Hammerhead

9 **Scalloped Hammerhead**

- The most common species of hammerhead shark
- Scalloped Hammerhead's can sometimes be found in very large schools numbering in the hundreds.
- This species is also considered endangered.

10 **Great Hammerhead**

- The largest species of Hammerhead Sharks.
- Has a thicker head and eyes are located on the outside of head.
- A typical Hammerhead shark grows to 4 m. long and weighs about 500 lbs.
- Largest ever was 14.5ft. Long and 1,280 lbs. caught off the coast of Florida.

11 **Smooth hammerhead**

- The Smooth Hammerhead is different than other species because of the smooth shape of its head and lack of the common central indentation.
- The head shape resembles more of an axe than the traditional hammer shape.
- The Smooth Hammerhead is also the only species of hammerhead that are found as far north as Canada.

12 **White Fin Hammerhead**

- Has a blue-grey shading on top, unlike other Hammerhead species.
- This species has the least known about it and is very rare.

13 **Bonnethead Hammerhead**

- Shorter than most hammerhead at 5 ft.
- Eyes are placed laterally on the lobes of the head.
- Bonnetheads are considered harmless to people.

14 **Shovelhead Hammerhead**

- Vary similar to the bonnethead shark.
- Are the shortest of the Hammerheads at 3.4 ft. long.
- Seen as having this smooth spade- like head like the bonnethead.

15 **Scoophead Hammerhead**

- Smaller species of Hammerhead with arched hammer shaped head.
- Are considered harmless to Humans
- Little is known about this species

16 **Small Eye Hammerhead**

- Small Hammerhead found in subtropical waters.

- Maximum size of 4 ft.
- Known for its Mallet shaped head.

17  **Overview**