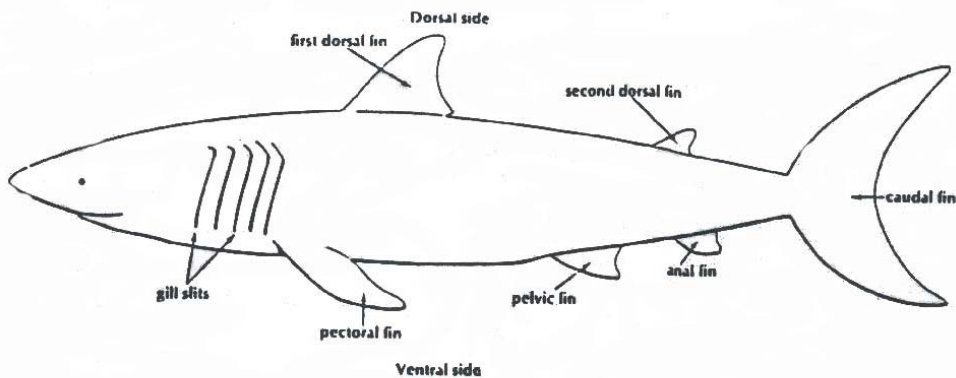


Dichotomous Key to Shark Families

1. A. Body kite-like in shape (if viewed from the top)Go to statement 12
 B. Bay not kite-like in shape (if viewed from the top)Go to statement 2
2. A. Pelvic fin absent and nose saw-likeFamily Pristiophoridae
 B. Pelvic fin present Go to statement 3
3. A. Six gill slits presentFamily Hexanchidae
 B. Five gill slits presentGo to statement 4
4. A. Only one dorsal finFamily Scyliorhinidae
 B. Two dorsal finsGo to statement 5
5. A. Mouth at front of snout.....Family Rhinocodontidae
 B. Mouth onunderside of head Go to statement 6
6. A. Head expanded on side with eyes at end of expansionFamily Sphymidae
 B. Head not expandedGo to statement 7
7. A. Top half of caudal fin about the same size as bottom halfFamily Isuridae
 B. Top half of caudal fin different in size than bottom half ..Go to statement 8
8. A. First dorsal fin very long, almost 1/2 total length of the body... Family Pseudotriakidae
 B. First dorsal fin regular lengthGo to statement 9
9. A. Caudal fin very long, almost as long as entire bodyFamily Alopiidae
 B. Caudal fin regular lengthGo to statement 10
10. A. A long needlelike point on end of noseFamily Scapanorhynchidae
 B. Nose without long point Go to statement 11
11. A. Anal fin absentFamily Squalidae
 B. Anal fin present Family Carcharhinidae
12. A. Small dorsal fin present near tip of railFamily Rajidae
 B. No dorsal fin present near tip of tailGo to statement 13
13. A. Front of animal with two horn-like appendages Family Mobulidae
 B. No horn-like appendages..... Family Dasyatidae



Use the Key to Shark Families to identify each of the following species

