



## Name:

## **BUOYANCY FACTS**

- Sharks are buoyant, in other words they don't sink but they really should! Buoyancy is the ability to float in water or other fluids. Sharks need to put effort into remaining buoyant. In fact, if they stop swimming they will sink.
- Most bony fish have a swim bladder that helps the fish float without having to swim all the time. But sharks don't have a swim bladder. The reason is sharks can rapidly change depth without bursting an air-filled swim bladder.
- How does a shark float? There are three main ways that sharks use their bodies to float. This floating shark activity covers one of them, the oily liver! Sharks rely on a pretty big oil-filled liver to help them stay buoyant in water. Use this to help you with the hypothesis to your experiment.

