Shark Scale

There are over 500 different species of sharks all over the world. Some, like the whale shark, are as big as a school bus. Others, like the dwarf lantern shark, can fit in the palm of your hand. In this activity you will find out which type of California coast shark you are closest to size-wise.

Materials
Measuring tape or stick, at least 6 feet (1.8 meters) long
Height recording sheet (print out page 2, or use a blank piece of paper)
Pen or pencil

Directions
1. Measure your height from head to toe and write down your measurement on page 2. Optional: Measure the height of other members of your household (maybe even a pet dog or cat) and record their heights on page 2.

2. Compare your measurements to the lengths of the sharks below. These sharks are commonly found along the California coast.

   Swell shark: up to 3 feet (0.9 meters)
   Horn shark: up to 4 feet (1.2 meters)
   Leopard shark: from 4-7 feet (1.2–2.1 meters)
   Broadnose sevengill shark: up to 10 feet (3 meters)
   Great white shark: up to 20 feet (6 meters)

3. Record on page 2 which of these sharks you are smaller than and which you are bigger than.

4. Optional: Draw yourself next to the shark closest in size to you.
Measurements

My name: ____________________________  My height: __________________________

I am smaller than a ____________________________ shark

I am bigger than a ____________________________ shark

Name: _______________________________  Height: _____________________________

They are smaller than a ____________________________ shark

They are bigger than a ____________________________ shark

Name: _______________________________  Height: _____________________________

They are smaller than a ____________________________ shark

They are bigger than a ____________________________ shark