



Bull Shark



by Ellen Lawrence

[Intentionally Left Blank]



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Danger in the River

It's early evening in the Amazon rain forest.

A turtle is slowly swimming in a river.

Suddenly, something bumps the animal, then . . . *crunch!*

The turtle disappears into a giant mouth filled with sharp teeth.

What huge **predator** is hunting in the river?

It's a powerful bull shark!



turtle

Most sharks
live in oceans.
Bull sharks,
however, make their
homes in oceans
and in rivers.

bull shark

Meet a Bull Shark

Bull sharks have large, solid bodies and rounded snouts.

Adult bull sharks weigh about 300 to 500 pounds (136 to 227 kg).

The male sharks usually grow to be 8 feet (2.4 m) long from snout to tail.

Females are larger and can grow to be 11 feet (3.4 m) long!





dorsal fin

tail fin

fin for steering

A shark has a dorsal **fin** on its back for balance. This fin stops the animal from tipping over to one side. It also has a fin on each side of its body to help it steer. Its tail fin helps push it through the water.

adult bull
shark