- Cartilaginous Fish fish whose entire skeleton is composed of cartilage
- Cartilage flexible connective tissue composed of cells and protein
 - Example the tip of your nose



Types of Cartilaginous Fish



Sharks



Skates



Rays

- There are as few as 700 cartilaginous fish species where as 25,000 known boney fish
- Considered the first jawed fish



- Cartilaginous Fish Characteristics:
 - Placoid Scales tiny teeth that are embedded in the skin that point backwards
 - If you rubbed your hand from tail to head it would feel like rough sandpaper

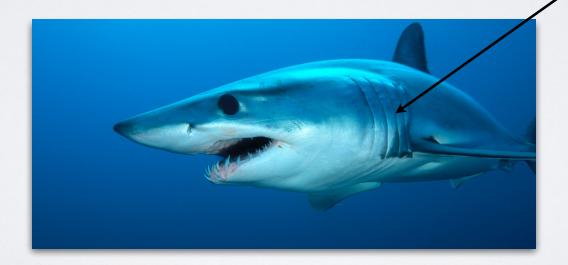




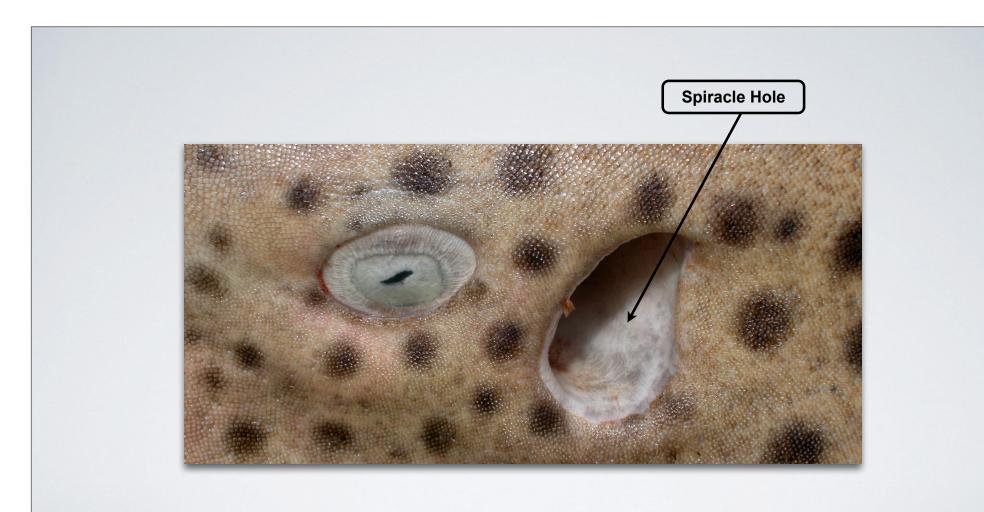
• Cartilaginous Fish Characteristics: (continued)

Visible Gill Slits





- Cartilaginous Fish Characteristics: (continued)
 - Spiracles breathing holes located on their dorsal side behind each side of the eyes
 - Water enters through the spiracle holes and passes through the gill chamber



Spiracle Holes

- Cartilaginous Fish Characteristics: (continued)
 - Rigid Fins fins that allow them to glide through the water

