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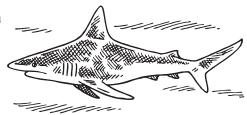
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Shark Skin

1



If you rub your hand on shark skin, you may bleed because shark skin has many little teeth in it. These little teeth are called *denticles*.



Shark skin was used to smooth wood before sandpaper was invented. Today, shark skin can have its denticles removed. Then it is made into shoes. The shoes can last four times longer than other leather shoes!

Activity: A pair of shark skin shoes is for sale. They are two times the price of other shoes. Your friend says, "They aren't worth it. They can't be shark skin because they are smooth."

Explain why the shoes may or may not be shark skin. Then indicate whether you think they are a

good or poor buy for you or for others. me-downs, and time.	When you write, think about price, fashion, foot size, hand-

2

Slipping Swords

Long ago, warriors in Japan wrapped shark skin around their sword handles. The rough skin kept their hands **IMAGINE** from slipping. THAT! **Activity:** Write about a young boy in Japan long ago. Imagine that the boy is not as strong as other boys or warriors, so everyone laughs at him. Imagine that all the warriors had problems with swords slipping out of their hands. Describe what happens when the boy figures out a way to keep his sword from slipping!



Prompt 29

Would the singing ever stop? It was driving Sam crazy! . . .



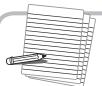
Prompt 30

You are being given a free ticket. What event would you like a free ticket to? It can be to anything—a game, a movie, an amusement park, a concert, or even a plane or boat ticket. Explain your choice.



Prompt 31

Rachel was reading her book at the library. Suddenly she began to tingle. Then she felt herself being pulled into the story!



Prompt 32

Your job is to give one million dollars away. You can give it in one lump sum, or you can divide it up. The money must go to people who need help or to organizations that help others, animals, or the environment. Who will you give the money to? Explain your choice.