Name: _____ Date: _____

The Shark Who Smiled

Reading level 6 · 168 words

Shay was a young shark with a big, wide smile. Shay loved to swim and look at the reef.

One morning, Shay bumped a rock. Pop! A tooth came out and sank down to the sand.

Shay looked at the tooth. "Oh no!" said Shay. "My teeth are falling out!"

Shay swam to the old shark, Nana. Nana was resting in the shade of a rock.

"Nana, I lost a tooth," said Shay. "Will I have a gap in my smile for good?"

Nana laughed a big, slow laugh. "A shark loses teeth all its life," she said. "New ones grow in."

"Look," said Nana. She opened her mouth wide. Shay saw a new tooth, just coming in.

"You will get a new tooth, too," said Nana. "A shark's smile always comes back."

Shay felt much better. Shay swam fast, with loops and flips. The little fish swam all around.

Soon a new tooth came in, right in the gap. Shay smiled the biggest smile on the reef.

Questions

1. What fell out of Shay's mouth?

A. A fin
B. A tooth
C. A shell

2. Who does Shay go to for help?

A. A starfish
B. A crab
C. Nana

3. Where was Nana resting?

A. In the shade of a rock
B. On the sand
C. Near the surface

4. Why was Shay worried at first?

A. Shay was hungry
B. Shay was lost
C. Shay thought the gap in the smile would stay

5. What did Shay learn from Nana?

A. Sharks have no teeth
B. A shark grows new teeth
C. Sponges are tasty

6. What does "gap" mean in the story?

A. An empty space
B. A tooth
C. A big wave

Words to know

reef: a ridge of coral
bumped: hit by accident
sank: went down
gap: an empty space
loses: does not keep
smile: a happy look

Answer key: The Shark Who Smiled

1. B. A tooth
2. C. Nana
3. A. In the shade of a rock
4. C. Shay thought the gap in the smile would stay
5. B. A shark grows new teeth
6. A. An empty space