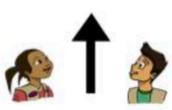


Decodable Word Chart

Long /e/ (ee)	Short /i/	Short /e/	Short /a/		Short /u/	Short /o/	Schwa /ə/
							
sea	fish	sell	catch	trash	rush	not	the
reef	swim	fresh	stand	snap		drop	from
sees	swish	yells	splash	flash		bomb	
reefs	kill	tell	blast	class		stop	
see	kills		asks	back		bombs	
	click		smash	glad		shock	
	kids		mash	thanks			



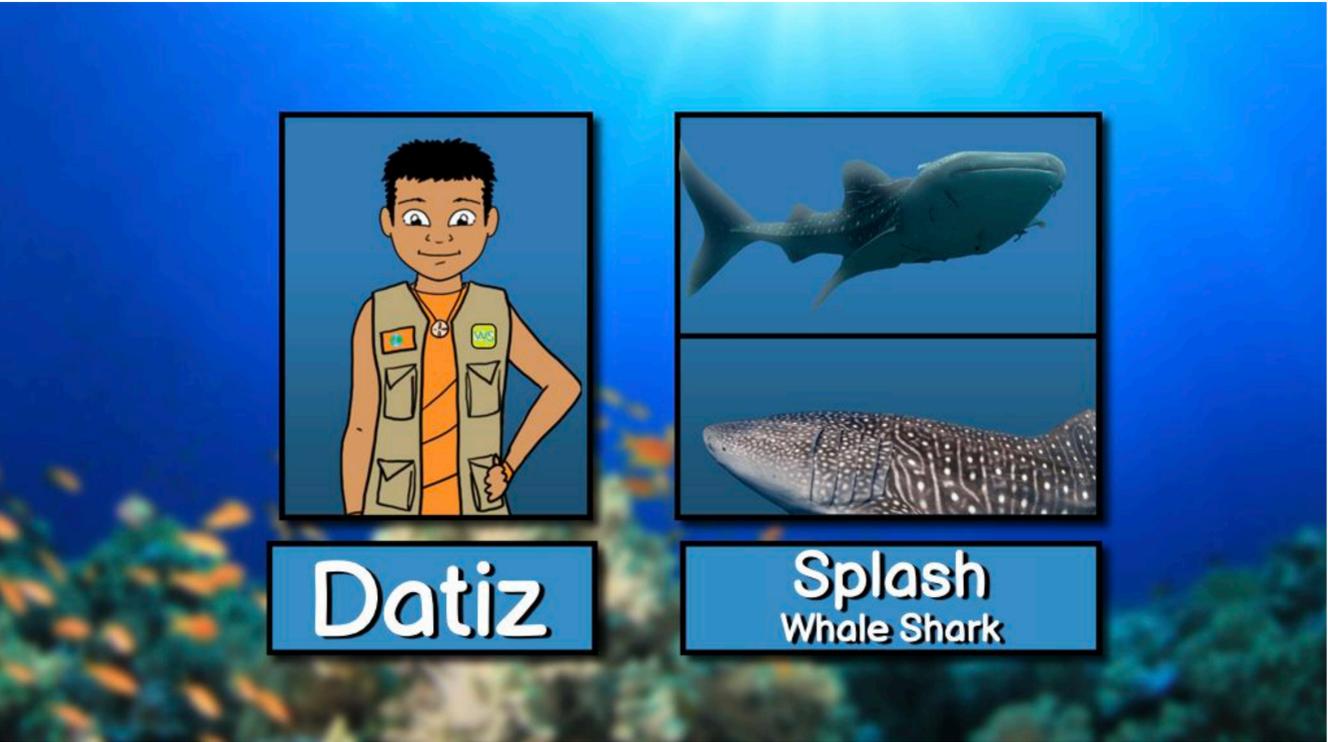
Written by
Kelly Case

Illustrated by
George Carrara



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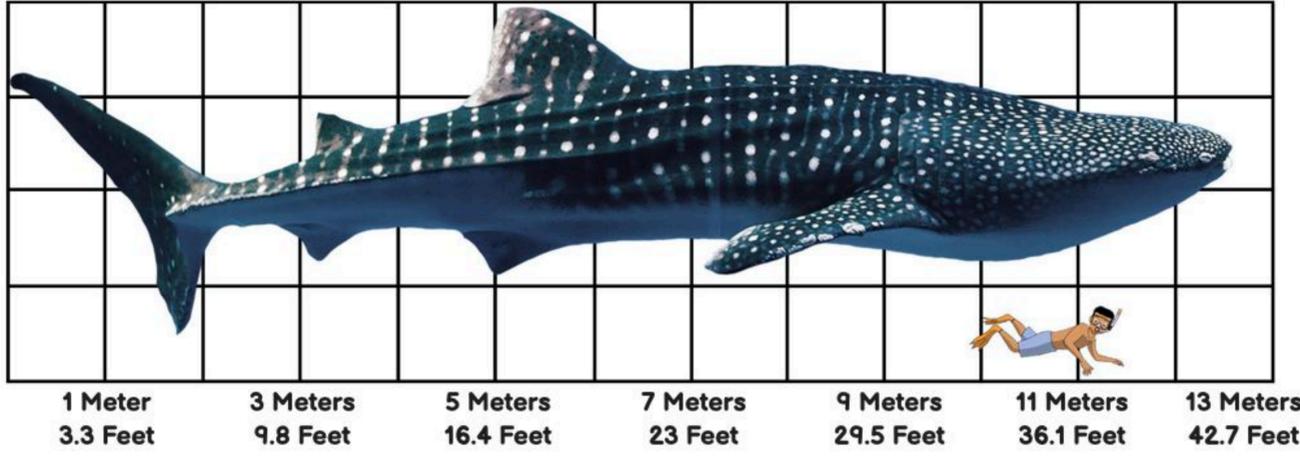
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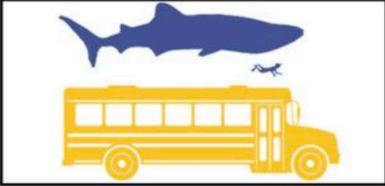
Datz

Splash
Whale Shark

Characters



How big is a full-grown whale shark?



Whale Shark Facts

- Whale sharks are the largest fish in the sea, even bigger than great white sharks. They can reach lengths of 12 meters (40 feet).
- An average whale shark weighs 20.6 tons, which makes it about the size of a school bus.
- Whale sharks prefer warm water and tropical climates, which means they migrate every spring toward Australia.
- Whale sharks are docile, and they will sometimes allow people to grab their fins and swim with them.
- They are not predatory, but rather eat tiny sea creatures called plankton.
- Whale sharks reach adulthood at around age 25, and they can live to be 100 or 150 years old.

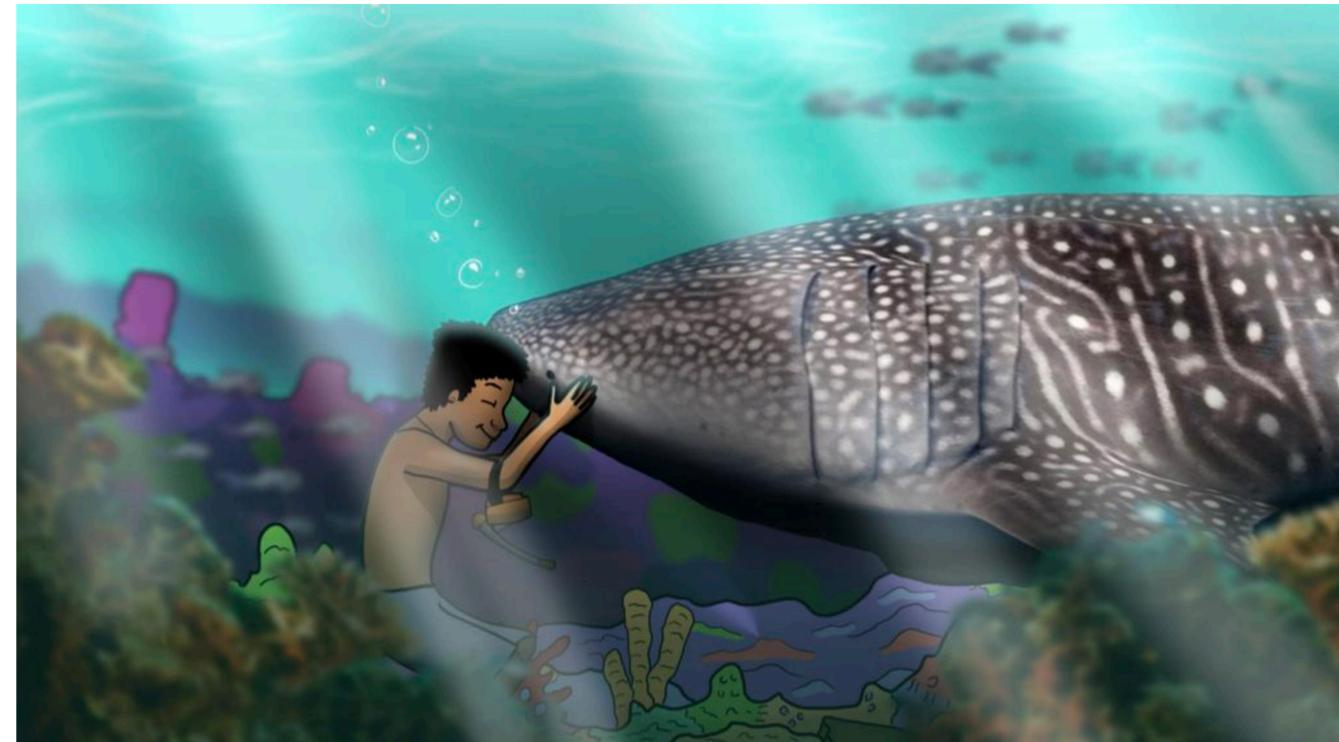


Teacher Reads:

The sea is so important to the people who live on Mantanani. The fishermen, who live on the island, catch fish to sell at the market.



Datiz and his dad catch fish from the sea.
They sell their fresh fish to the fish stand.



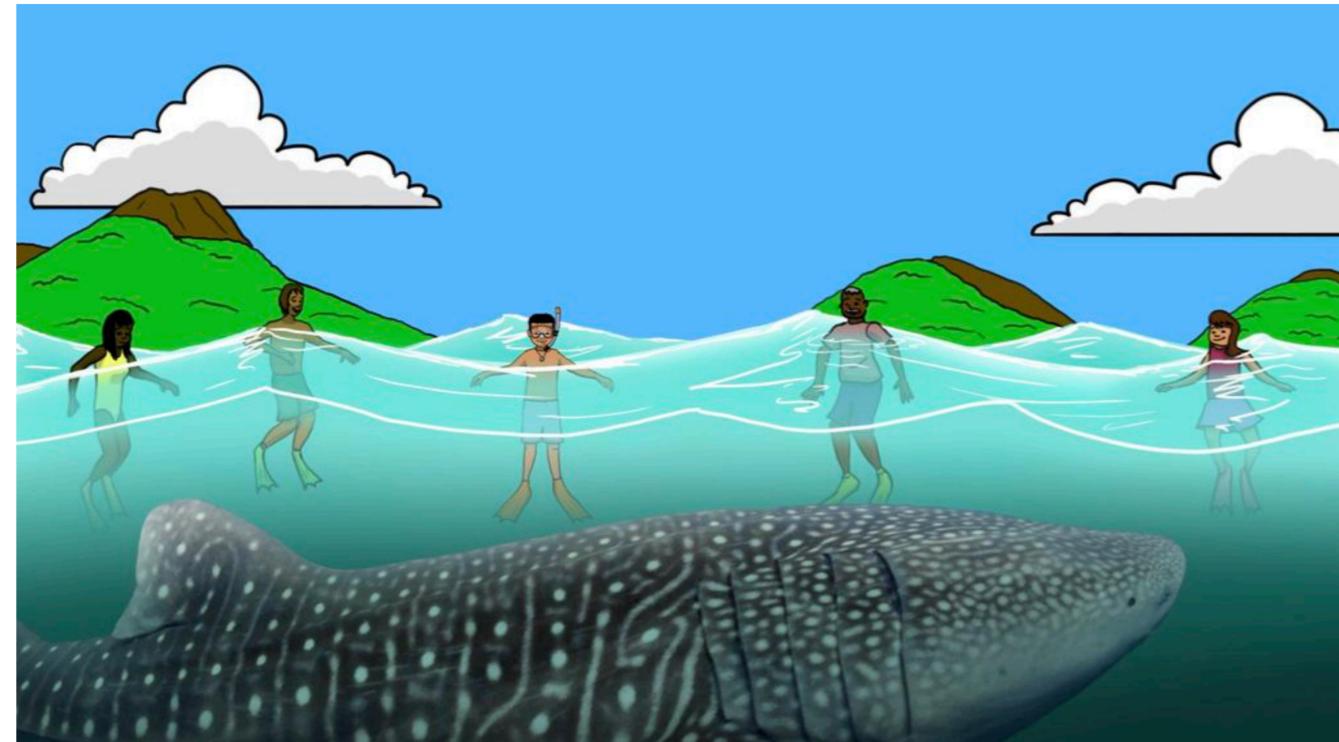
The coral reef begins to grow back.
Splash is glad and thanks Datiz.



The fishermen are in shock when they see the photos.

They did not think their bombs smashed the coral reefs.

“We will stop blast fishing to save the coral reefs,” say the fishermen.



Every spring, the gentle whale sharks swim by Datz and his pals. Datz likes to swim with his friend, Splash, one of the whale sharks. The whale sharks are the biggest fish in the sea. But they will not harm people.



One day, Datz and Splash swim by a coral reef, the home of many sea animals.

Swish, swish, swish.

Datz can talk to his pal, Splash.



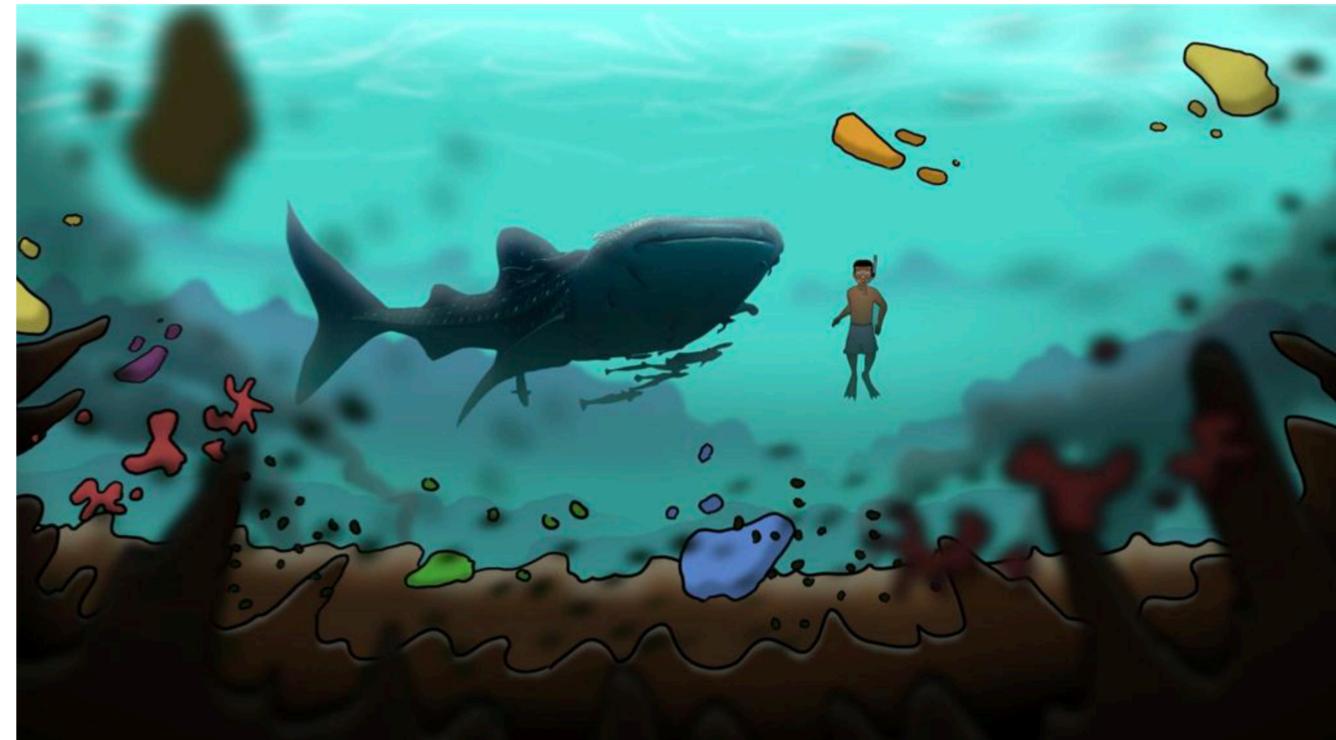
All the kids rush into the class to find out what is happening to the coral reef.

The kids in the class tell Datz, "Don't quit. Get the fishermen to stop blasting the coral reef!"



Snap, click, flash!

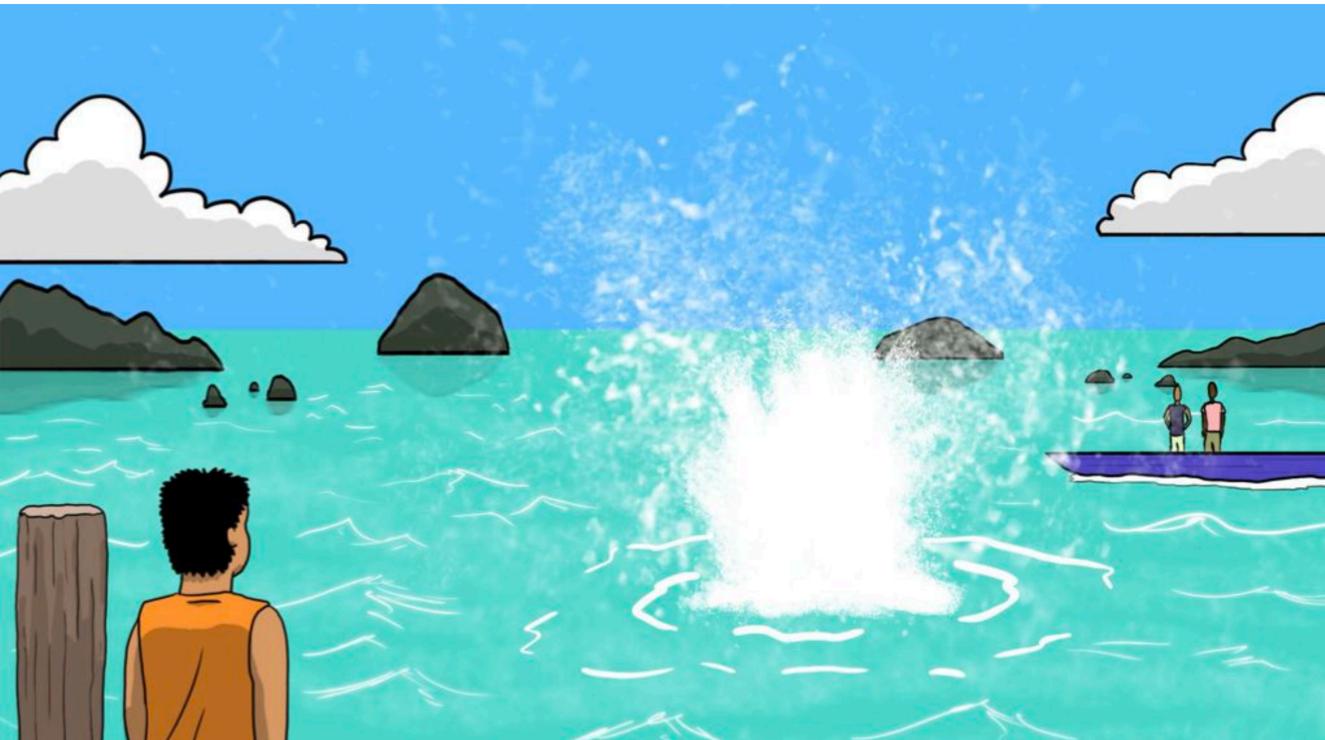
Datiz and Splash take a photo of the coral reef after the blast.



BOOM! BLAST! BOOM!

"What's that?" asks Datiz.

"It will kill the coral reef!" says Splash.



Datiz sees a man drop a bomb into the sea.

BOOM! BLAST! BOOM!



“STOP!” yells Datiz to the fishermen.

“The blast kills the fish so we can catch them,” says the fisherman.

“The bombs also smash, mash, and trash the coral reefs,” says Datiz.

But the fishermen do not want to stop catching fish this way.