

# Toothy or Not Toothy?

**Audience:** K-1<sup>st</sup> grade

**Duration:** 15-20 minutes

**STEM Process Skills:** Observation, Sorting, Graphing

**Learning Objectives/Goals:**

The student will be able to sort and graph the Aquarium residents with teeth vs. without teeth.

**TEKS:** Science K.10A&B, 1.10A  
Math K.8A&B, 1.8A&B

**Ocean Literacy Principles:** 5

**Vocabulary:** beak, teeth

**Description:** Students will sort Aquarium animals by whether or not they have teeth and then will create a graph of their findings.

**Materials:** One set of animal cards per group, scissors, one data sheet per student

**Procedure:**

- Print out the animal cards for each student group.
- Cut out each animal card.
- Sort the cards into animals with teeth and animals without teeth.
- Count the animals in each category.
- Color in the graph with the correct number of animals in each category.

**Background**

Sand tiger sharks use their sharp teeth to catch fish. They lose and replace teeth throughout their lives.

American alligators use their teeth and powerful jaws to grab on to prey such as fish, birds, turtles, or small

mammals. They can lose and replace teeth throughout their lives.

Scarlet macaws use their strong beaks to break open nuts, and they also eat fruits.

Bottlenose dolphins swallow their prey whole, but they use their teeth to catch and grab onto fish and other prey.

Toucans use their beaks to feed mainly on fruits.

Sea stars do not have teeth, but instead expel their stomachs to partially digest food before bringing food into their bodies.

North American river otters are carnivores that use sharp teeth to capture and tear fish and other prey.

Sloths are herbivores that use teeth to tear and chew leaves and fruits.

Hawksbill sea turtles use their beaks to eat prey such as sponges and crustaceans.

Serval cats are carnivores that use their teeth to tear the meat of animals such as rodents and other small mammals.

**Extensions**

- Ask your students to research what types of food the animals eat. How do their mouths help them find and eat their food?

**Resources:**

[www.iucn.org](http://www.iucn.org)    [www.eol.org](http://www.eol.org)



**Shark**



**Alligator**



**Macaw**



**Dolphin**



**Toucan**



**Sea Star**



**Otter**



**Sloth**



**Sea Turtle**



**Serval Cat**

