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3rd Grade

The Shark and the Penguin

One day in Antarctica, long ago when animals could talk, a shark that was very hungry said to himself, "I would like to have a penguin for lunch." The problem with this shark was he liked to know what he was eating, such as what kind of organs the animal had or if it was poisonous. So every time he tried a new animal he swam off to find that kind of animal to get it to tell him how it functioned. If he thought the animal would be delicious he said, "Thank you for telling me," and snatched it up.

After the shark got ready to set off on his long swim in search of a penguin, he said to his shark friends, "Wish me luck for good facts that sound tasty."

After 12 brutal hours of swimming, he came to an iceberg that had a few penguin nests on it. "Hum," he said angrily. "I thought there would be more penguins here, like a school of fish." But the shark didn't give up so he put his head on the iceberg and said, "Do any of you penguins mind telling me how you function?" This caught one of the penguin's attention so she came over and said, "Hello! How are you doing? My name is Mrs. Penguin. What is your name?"

The shark said, "I am doing quite fine, thank you. My name is Mr. Shark. How are you?"

Mrs. Penguin answered, "Good, thank you. What do you need?"

"Well, I wanted to know how you functioned," Mr. Shark answered.

"I can't tell you **that**," said Mrs. Penguin.

"WHY???", Mr. Shark asked.

"Well, because after you said this to krill and you **ate** the krill, it was in the penguin newspaper and I was on the lookout for you because I didn't want you to eat me or my family."

Mr. Shark said, "Do you know how many newspapers I was in?"

"Yes, I believe every newspaper in the sea," Mrs. Penguin said.

"Oh?!" Mr. Shark said, "I guess I can't fool any fish anymore."

"Can I be your friend?" Mrs. Penguin asked.

"Why in the whole ocean would you want to be my friend?" Mr. Shark asked.

"I thought that if you stayed here in the penguin area and promised that you wouldn't hurt any penguins you could go in the water with us and hunt for fish since fish are what you eat too in the food chain," Mrs. Penguin said.

"I'd love that. Can we go now?" Mr. Shark asked.

"First, you must promise to never again try to hurt a penguin. Hold up your right fin and repeat after me. I, Mr. Shark, so solemnly promise for the rest of my life to never hurt any penguin."

Mr. Shark repeated the oath and asked, "Now can we go fish?"

"Sure, first one who gets a fish wins," Mrs. Penguin said.

They swam off and for the rest of their lives they were friends.