

Shark Attack
Discussion Guide
Grades 3-8

Before Reading: to activate schema, build background knowledge, and set a purpose.

- Do you have any favorite sports? Where do you usually play?
- Where do you think shark attacks normally happen? Just offshore or open sea?
- Frontload vocabulary

During Reading: to engage students, check for understanding, and make connections.

- What is Bethany's favorite sport?
- Who does Bethany run into at Tunnel Beach?
- What kind of shark is swimming under Bethany and her friends?
- Where are Bethany's friends taking her after the attack?
- Whose surgery is canceled to make room for Bethany? Why?
- How was Bethany's recovery? What goal does she make after coming home? How was having her goal an important part of the recovery process?
- What was the most difficult part for Bethany to surf again?

After Reading: to summarize, question, and reflect.

- What are the "must-do" things if a shark attack happens?
- Think about ways to help people recover from injuries. What would you do to support people that are still recovering?

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more about the topic by reading other books with similar themes, structure, characters, or content.