

14 JULY 2021

SHARK AWARENESS DAY

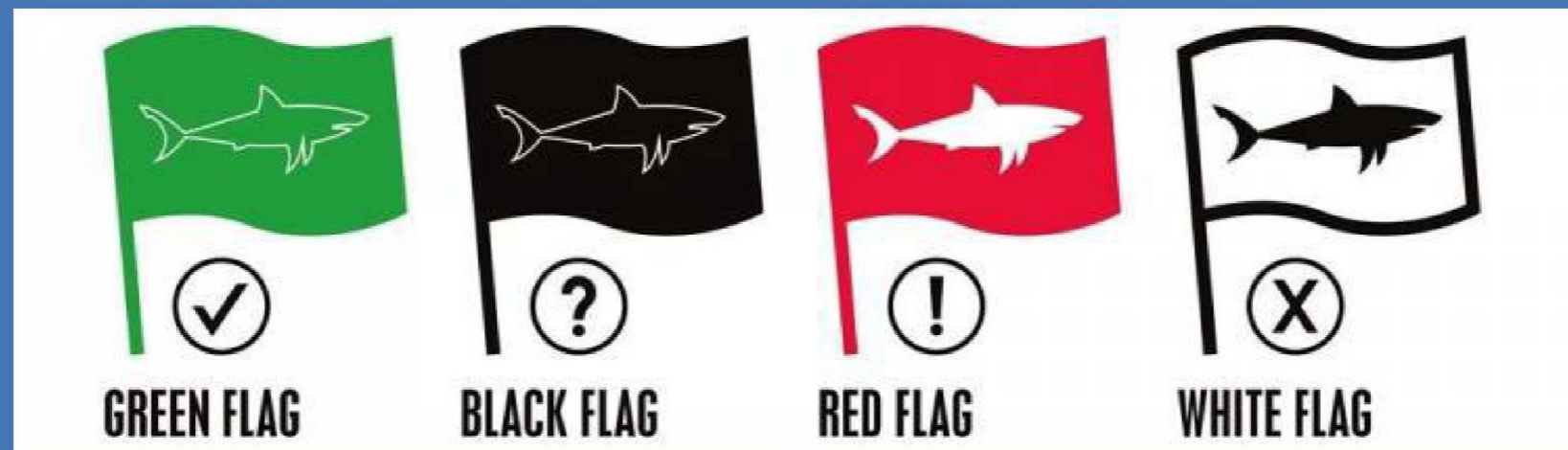
Here are seven shocking shark facts
to add to your general knowledge



- 1. Shark fins are as unique as fingerprints:**
Great white sharks get small injuries on their dorsal fins that form notches on the edges of their fins that South African scientists use to identify them.
- 2. South Africa is home to 117 different types of sharks.**
- 3. Sharks' swimming muscles are regulated by their spinal cord, not directly by their brain.**

4. South Africa has a system of flags for shark warnings.

Here's what the different colours mean:



GREEN:

Spotting conditions are good and no sharks have been spotted.

BLACK:

No sharks have been spotted, but visibility is poor.

RED:

Be alert, a shark was spotted nearby or recently.

WHITE:

A shark has been spotted at the beach, leave the water.
(A siren will sound too)

5. Sharks are particularly vulnerable to the threats posed by humans because they reproduce slowly.

6. A great white shark can grow to 20 feet (609cm) or longer.

7. Orcas, also known as killer whales, prey on over 140 animal species including bony fish, rays and sharks