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10 True Tales: Surviving Sharks and Other Dangerous Creatures

Erica Sonzogni

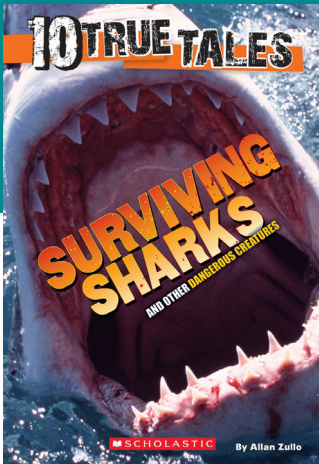
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Book Review

10 True Tales: Surviving Sharks and Other Dangerous Creatures

Author

Allan Zullo

Illustrator

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Reviewer

Erica Sonzogni

Rating

Excellent

Level

Intermediate

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Pages

151

Year

2006

Publisher

Scholastic, Inc.

ISBN

9780545818384

In 10 True Tales: Surviving Sharks, children have crossed paths with different creatures around the world and have traumatic experiences with each. The first chapter explains how fatal incidences with animals are extremely rare compared to everyday accidents or fatal encounters with the domesticated dog. Even so, this chapter explains that allowing animals to roam free in the wild, without being disturbed or harassed by humans, will ensure that these incidences occur less frequently. Each chapter thereafter describes a different animal and a story about how a child was badly hurt by that animal and the events that occurred before, during, and after the accident. At the end of some chapters, a scientist also explains why this animal, which rarely attacks humans, would do so to the child. Many facts are given about each animal and its habitat, along with what to do in the event that this attack would happen to others.

The title, 10 True Tales: Surviving Sharks, is misleading because only the first chapter involves an encounter with a shark. The rest of the book includes stories about an elephant, a bear, a python, a wolf, an alligator, a bull, a monkey, a moose, and a cougar. The scientific and survival information given is interesting and helpful to readers which will allow them to learn new concepts about animals and nature. The reader will be shocked to read how some of these animals easily attacked children, even ones that are not normally aggressive. There were many scenes in the book that are violent and gory and could be frightening to some. Younger readers would find the ideas behind the book appealing, however, many may become extremely scared due to the content. Most suitable for ages 9 and above.

*Contains moderate violence.