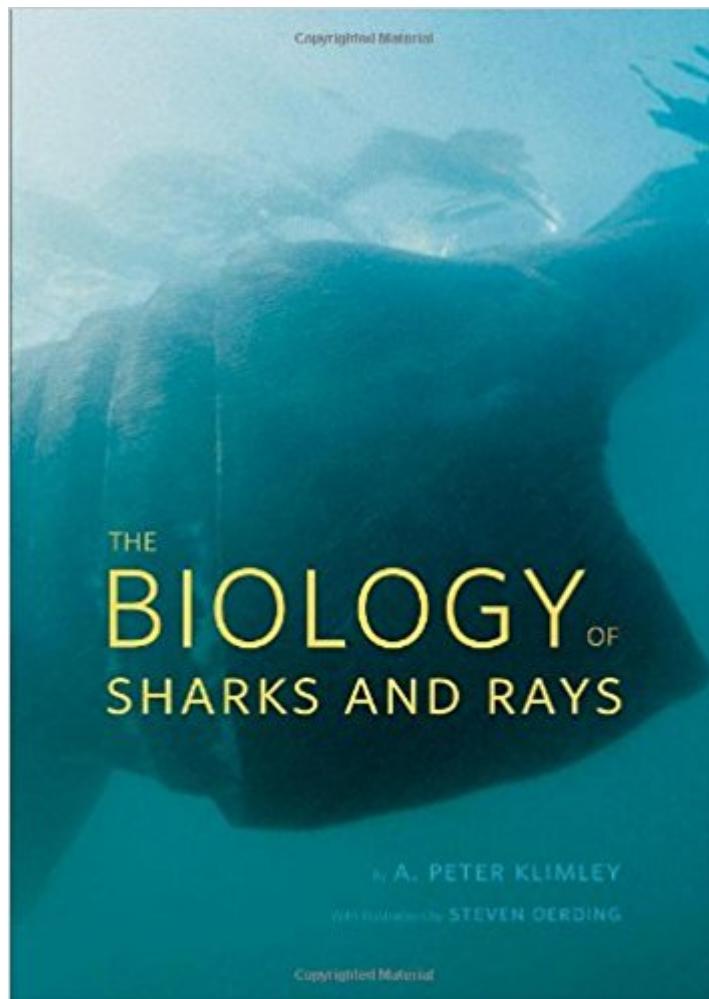


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# The Biology Of Sharks And Rays



## Synopsis

The Biology of Sharks and Rays is a comprehensive resource on the biological and physiological characteristics of the cartilaginous fishes: sharks, rays, and chimaeras. In sixteen chapters, organized by theme, A. Peter Klimley covers a broad spectrum of topics, including taxonomy, morphology, ecology, and physiology. For example, he explains the body design of sharks and why the ridged, toothlike denticles that cover their entire bodies are present on only part of the rays' bodies and are absent from those of chimaeras. Another chapter explores the anatomy of the jaws and the role of the muscles and teeth in jaw extension, seizure, and handling of prey. The chapters are richly illustrated with pictures of sharks, diagrams of sensory organs, drawings of the body postures of sharks during threat and reproductive displays, and maps showing the extent of the species' foraging range and long-distance migrations. Each chapter commences with an anecdote from the author about his own personal experience with the topic, followed by thought-provoking questions and a list of recommended readings in the scientific literature. The book will be a useful textbook for advanced ichthyology students as well as an encyclopedic source for those seeking a greater understanding of these fascinating creatures.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"This book is a novel publication in its field—such a cohesive compilation of all aspects of Chondrichthyan fish life was surprisingly nonexistent prior to this text. . . . We believe Peter Klimley's attempt would serve admirably as a textbook." (Journal of Fish

Biology) "This is really the essential *Shark Week* companion for nature TV fans, and the chapter on cartilaginous fishes and humans is an especially rigorous antidote to oversensationalization. More than that though, this book is a comprehensive overview of the state of biological knowledge of these fishes. It is logically laid out, with excellent illustrations and abundant, current citations. These features, plus discussion questions for every chapter, make it a very functional textbook, but the spotlight sections and engaging writing should make it appeal to a much broader audience." (Conservation Biology) "An appealing, comprehensive, and exciting resource on the study of many cartilaginous fishes. . . . What separates this work from other highly useful volumes on elasmobranch fishes is its accessibility and tone. Klimley's experience as a teacher and mentor really shine in the text; the detailed summaries of the science are nicely paced and easy to read and understand for readers of all backgrounds. Additionally, the book is replete with wonderfully illustrated figures and panels (especially on the anatomy and behavioral ethograms), as well as clear and informative data tables, all of which present actual scientific data from published work. . . . Shark and ray scientists and teachers alike will appreciate the attention to detail and accessibility of this book, and its pages serve as a stepping stone for those interested in deeper investigations into the literature. This resource is highly recommended and should be used by a wide-ranging audience, from high school and college students, to teachers, and even experts in the field. Klimley should be very proud of this career-spanning accomplishment." (Austin J. Gallagher, University of Miami Bulletin of Marine Science) "A. Peter Klimley has been studying the biology of sharks for decades. In this book, he combines this extensive research experience with that of others to produce a solid reference for every shark enthusiast." (Gregory Skomal, *The Shark Handbook: The Essential Guide for Understanding the Sharks of the World*)

A. Peter Klimley is adjunct professor in the Department of Wildlife, Fish, and Conservation and director of the Biotelemetry Laboratory at the University of California, Davis. He is the author of *The Secret Life of Sharks*.

Anyone who has studied sharks is familiar with the respected work of Dr. Peter Klimley. A true pioneer in shark research, Pete has spent decades conducting groundbreaking studies on their mysterious lives. His passion for sharks and rays is evident throughout *The Biology of Sharks and Rays*, which offers an accurate, up-to-date, and comprehensive review of all realms of shark science. From evolution and physiology to behavior and conservation, the book is an impressive

achievement. It is loaded with black-and-white and color illustrations and photographs, tables, and graphs, including many drawn directly from the primary scientific literature. It is appropriately technical, but still very readable, and filled with anecdotes and personal reflections from the author's extensive experience. But Klimley is quick to acknowledge that "This book is really not my book but is the fruit of the arduous work of many dedicated scientists who have worked with these wonderful creatures..." I highly recommend the book for college and graduate students interested in sharks, rays, and skates. It would make an excellent reference text for shark biology courses. The book may also be enjoyed and useful to more casual shark enthusiasts as well as established shark experts. As a shark scientist myself, I am excited to have this useful reference at my fingertips.

"The Biology of Sharks and Rays" is an excellent resource on the biology and ecology of these fascinating species. I have long admired the work of Dr. Klimley, and it is a real treat to peruse and read through the collection of chapters which provide a detailed and accessible tour of the evolution, behavior, morphology, behavior, and conservation of sharks and rays. Some of the highlights of this work are the attention to detail and the references to real published research by the world's experts, including a lovely assortment of figures and tables based on actual data. Klimley's decades of experience as a leading and thought-provoking shark researcher really shine through in this book, and its anecdotes and personal stories really make the book a treat to read. This book is useful for a wide range of readers, from high school and college students, to enthusiasts, and even seasoned experts. Highly recommended.

An excellent book on the subclass Elasmobranchii (sharks and rays) of the class Chondrichthyes, omitting the subclass Holocephali (the chimaeras). It is a technical book, but parts can be read profitably by non-biologists. I would definitely recommend it for the bookshelves of ichthyologists and fisheries specialists.

Awesome book! I love the organization of the chapters, makes for an exciting read and a perfect reference for shark enthusiasts of all kinds. I love the amount of detail the author gets into for certain topics, really is a great book.

This was an easy and satisfying read but a few spelling and grammar errors.

This IS a five star book. The information contained in this book is amazing and can be understood

by a lay person. I was particularly interested in info about rays and this book supplies it. Now comes the 'however' .The 'new' book that you will get from is not the original printing. The original printing was a very beautiful book (got it from the library) with its own separate cover and shiny stiff paper. Now, they will send a book that is a little thicker because the paper is fluffier and not as high quality. Also, it does not have a separate cover; the cover is part of the top board. If condition and appearance do not matter to you, and only content is important, then this book is for you. I returned the copy I received from and will hunt for it elsewhere. Thank you.

nice book daughter loves it.

I recently had reason to dip into this book when preparing a research paper. 'The biology of sharks and Rays'. To say its excellent is an understatement, it's a bible for the shark and fish researcher. Considering that I thought it was written in reference /text book style I have found it a fascinating read, and I have found it difficult to put down... it has a perfect flow and presentation of research and knowledge/ insight without being dry. I congratulate Dr Klimley on it and I believe it's a very real and tangible legacy for his passion and life spent in the study and pursuit of shark knowledge, it will last many years as the 'go to' reference for the various species and I believe it crowns his not insignificant contribution to the knowledge on the species in his own papers/ research.

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