

Black Tip Reef Shark

Large and powerful, the Black Tip Reef Shark is not quite as aggressive as its Black Tip and Oceanic White Tip cousins. Black Tip Reef Sharks give birth to 2-10 live pups in shallow waters. Sometimes the pups are confused by the splashing of peoples' feet who are in mangrove swamps or swimming near coral reefs, and nip at them.

These sharks have oval-shaped eyes. Like its cousin the Black Tip shark, the Black Tip Reef shark has dorsal and tail fins tipped with black markings. Like most sharks, they have a pale belly that helps them hide themselves when viewed from below. Black Tip Reef Sharks grow up to 6 ft 6 in (2 m) in Length and weigh up to 30 lbs (14 kg). Sharks like these stay close to reefs and the shore. Black Tip Reef Sharks live in coral reefs in the Indian Ocean and the Southwest Pacific. They can dive to depths as deep as 250 ft (75 m). Their Prey is fish and invertebrates.

Sadly Black Tip Reef Sharks are commercially fished.

1. Ellwood, Nancy, and Margaret Parrish. "Black and White." *Sharkpedia*. New York, New York: DK publishing, 2008. 51. Print.
2. *Eyewitness Shark Profiles*. New York, New York: DK Publishing, 2008. Print.