

# Nurse Shark

Nurse Sharks are large carpetsharks. They grow up to 9 ft 10 in (3 m). They weigh up to 240 lbs (109 kg).

Nurse sharks live in the Atlantic and eastern Pacific oceans. During the day these sluggish fish lurk in coral reefs down to 250 ft (76 m). Other times they pile together in caves or their favorite sandy spots to conserve their energy for the next night of hunting. At night they hunt prey such as lobster, crab, squid, small fish, and invertebrates.

Since their eyesight is not very good they mostly use their barbels to help find food while rooting in the sand and sea bed for food. Nurse sharks have small mouths. Their head is broad, body is long and stout. They have grayish brown skin (or dermal denticles). Juveniles often have black spots.

Nurse sharks are lightly fished.

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