

FAKE FINS



Famous French film-maker and oceanographer Fabien Cousteau has a special way of getting really close to fearsome

fish – a shark-shaped minisubmarine called Troy...

NG Kips Hi, Fabien! Following sharks in your submarine Troy sounds a bit scary! What's it like inside?

Fabien It's very dark, cramped and it's pretty difficult to move around inside – but it's great for looking at sharks!

NGK How do the sharks react to Troy when you're swimming alongside them? Fabien The sharks I've seen have been pretty curious but also cautious about Troy. Some looked like they were trying to use a kind of sign language – that's



how sharks seem to communicate with each other.

NGK That's amazing! What's the scariest shark experience you've ever had?
Fabien One time, something went wrong with Troy and I got stuck at the bottom of the sea in the area we call the shark 'feeding zone', near a colony of elephant seals. It was night-time, and hard to see, but I had to leave Troy and swim alone for several hundred metres to shore.
That's top of the list for scary moments!

NGK Swimming in the feeding zone at night – yikes! After so much time diving in the ocean, is it still an adventure for you? Fabien Yes! Every time I dive, I see an underwater world full of fascinating things. For example, I recently dived with five huge humpback whales.

> NGK Wow! Would you ever want a pet shark? Fabien No, I'm very happy with Heidi, my mixed-breed dog. She's my best friend!

ONCE BITTEN

Most people who are unlucky enough to be bitten by a shark do live to tell the tale. Take the story of surfer Bethany Hamilton...

Back on board

Bethany Hamilton was on her way to becoming a surfing superstar when, aged 13, she was attacked by a 4.5m-long tiger shark, while riding waves with her friends near her home in Hawaii. Taking a 50cm chunk out of her surfboard, the shark also bit off her left arm. Amazingly, brave Bethany was back on her board four weeks later. Since then, she has won surfing contests and written a book, Soul Surfer, about her experience.

