

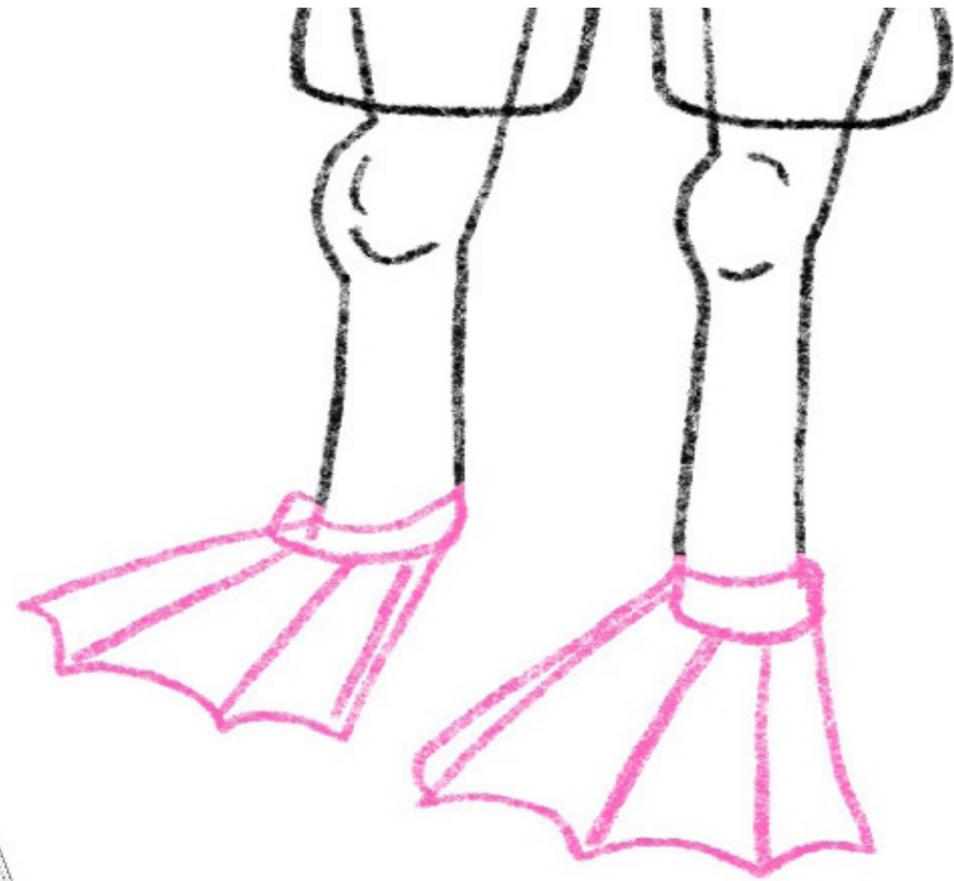
Lets talk about :

Plastic



and sharks.

Until today humans have produced
8300 million metric tons of plastic.



And a lot of
that plastic is
in the ocean.



**8300
million
metric
tons ?**

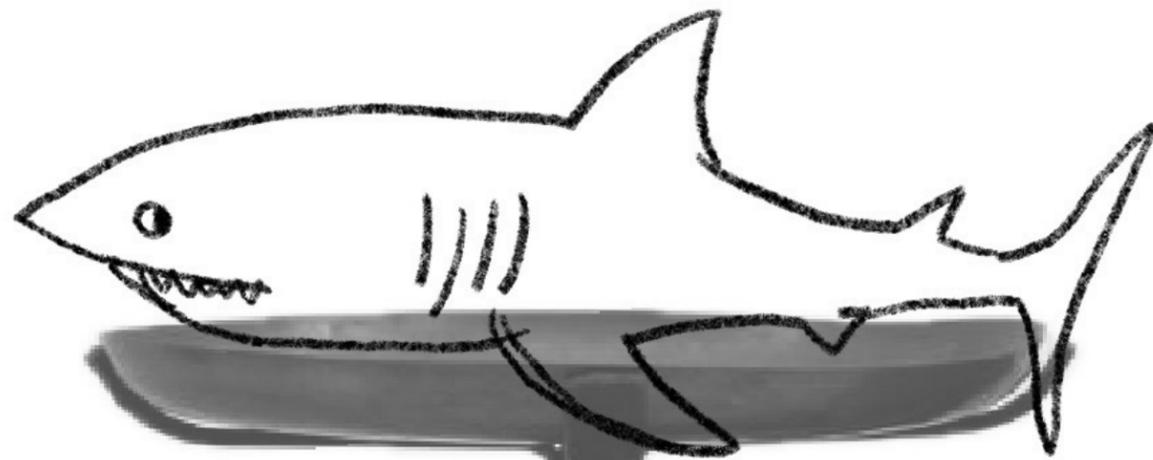


That's hard to imagine!

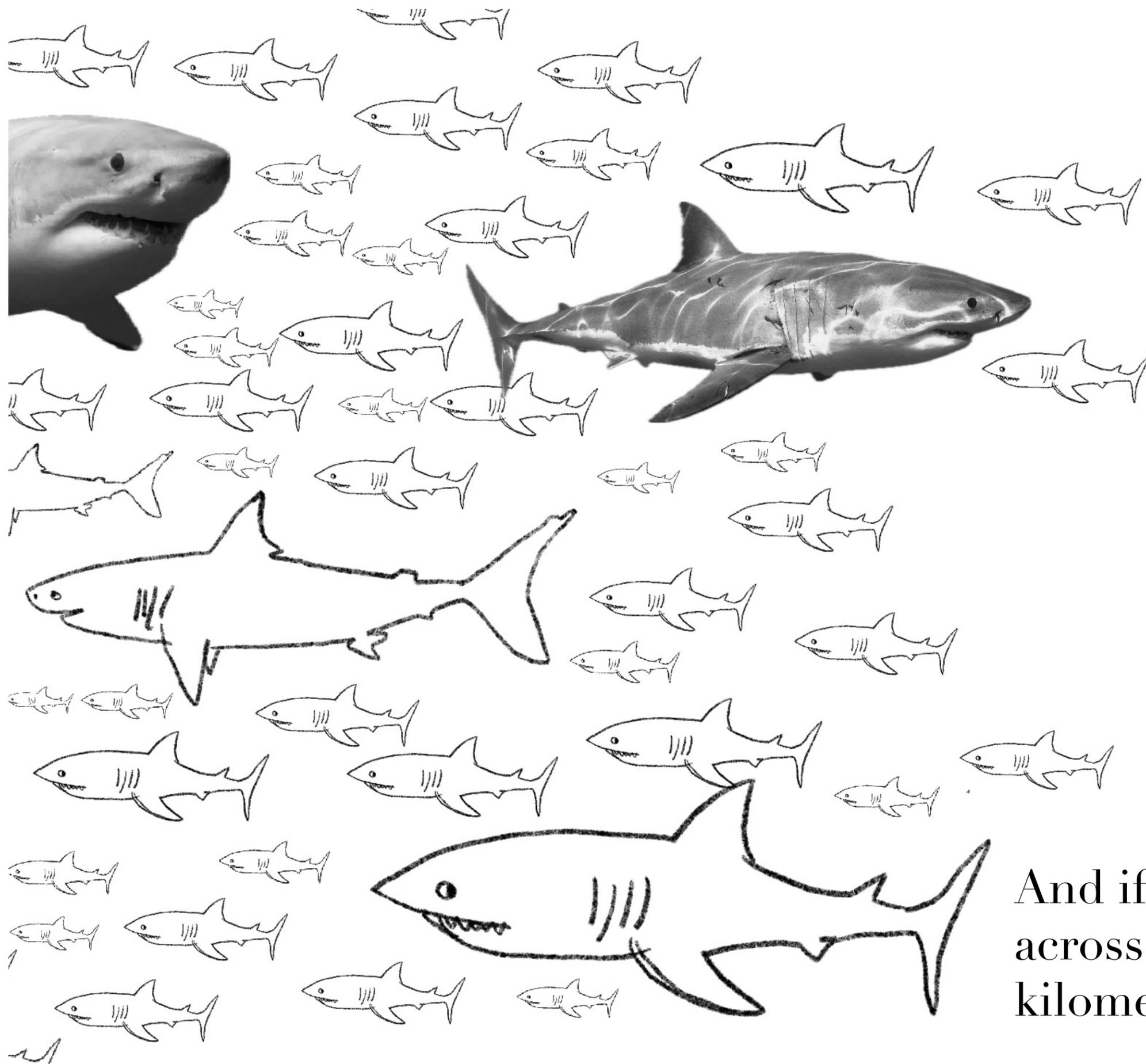
But imagine this:

One **METRIC TON** has the same
weight as one young

**great
white shark**



So 8300 million
metric tons are ...



**a lot of
sharks!!!**

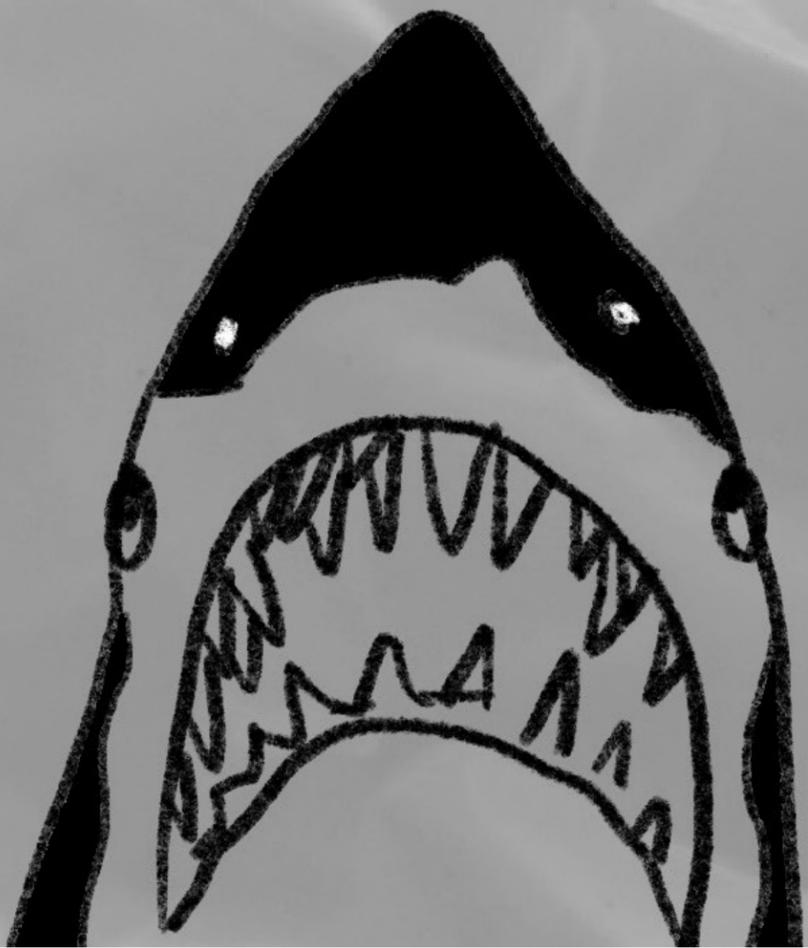
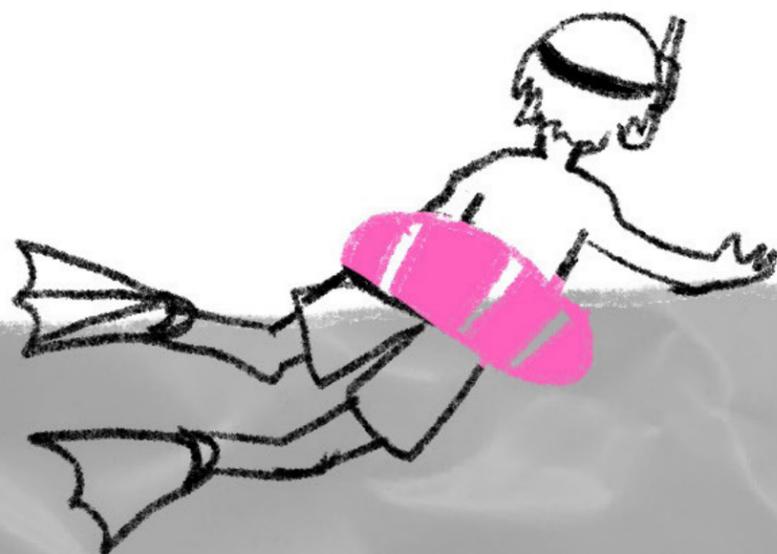
And if you divide them
across the 361 million square
kilometers of ocean...

There are about 23 sharks in each square kilometer.



**Aaahhh
I don't want to
swim here!!!**

You see, that many sharks are scary!



But this much plastic...

Plastic will not eat you...



might be
even
SCARIER

... but you eat plastic!

Why does that matter?

Over time plastic pieces become **smaller** and **smaller**.
And these microplastics get **everywhere!**

Microplastics are in the soil, in the water and in the air. They are even in the bodies of animals and humans. Toxins also hitch a ride on plastics. While we don't know all the impacts of plastics on living beings yet, we do know that when plastic enters your body it can be **harmful!**

Yes! Even for sharks!



So what do we do about this? We can clean up, we can reuse and recycle, but most importantly we can:

Use less and produce less!



Lets talk about plastic...
by Carlotta Gessler

Sources: R. Geyer, J. R. Jambeck, K. L. Law, Production, use, and fate of all plastics ever made .Sci. Adv. 3, e1700782 (2017).