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DIARY OF AN ICE PRINCESS

The Big Freeze



Christina Soontornvat

 SCHOLASTIC

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For Ryder and Hunter

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by
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The Art of Surprise

❁ FRIDAY ❁

Dear Diary,

I've said this before, but I'll say it again: There is nothing I love more than school.

Except my family.

And my dog, Gusty.

Okay, and maybe my best friend,
Claudia.

Okay, and maybe mango-and-
whipped-cloud pudding—but you get the
picture!



If the kids at school knew about
my real life—that I'm a princess with
magical winter powers who lives in a

palace in the clouds—they'd probably wish we could trade places. But I just love knowing that when I walk through the doors of Hilltop Science and Arts Academy something exciting is going to happen.

Exciting things that could happen:

- * Sharpening pencils!
- * Holding doors open for people!
- * Drinking milk out of a carton!
- * Riding on an actual school bus!

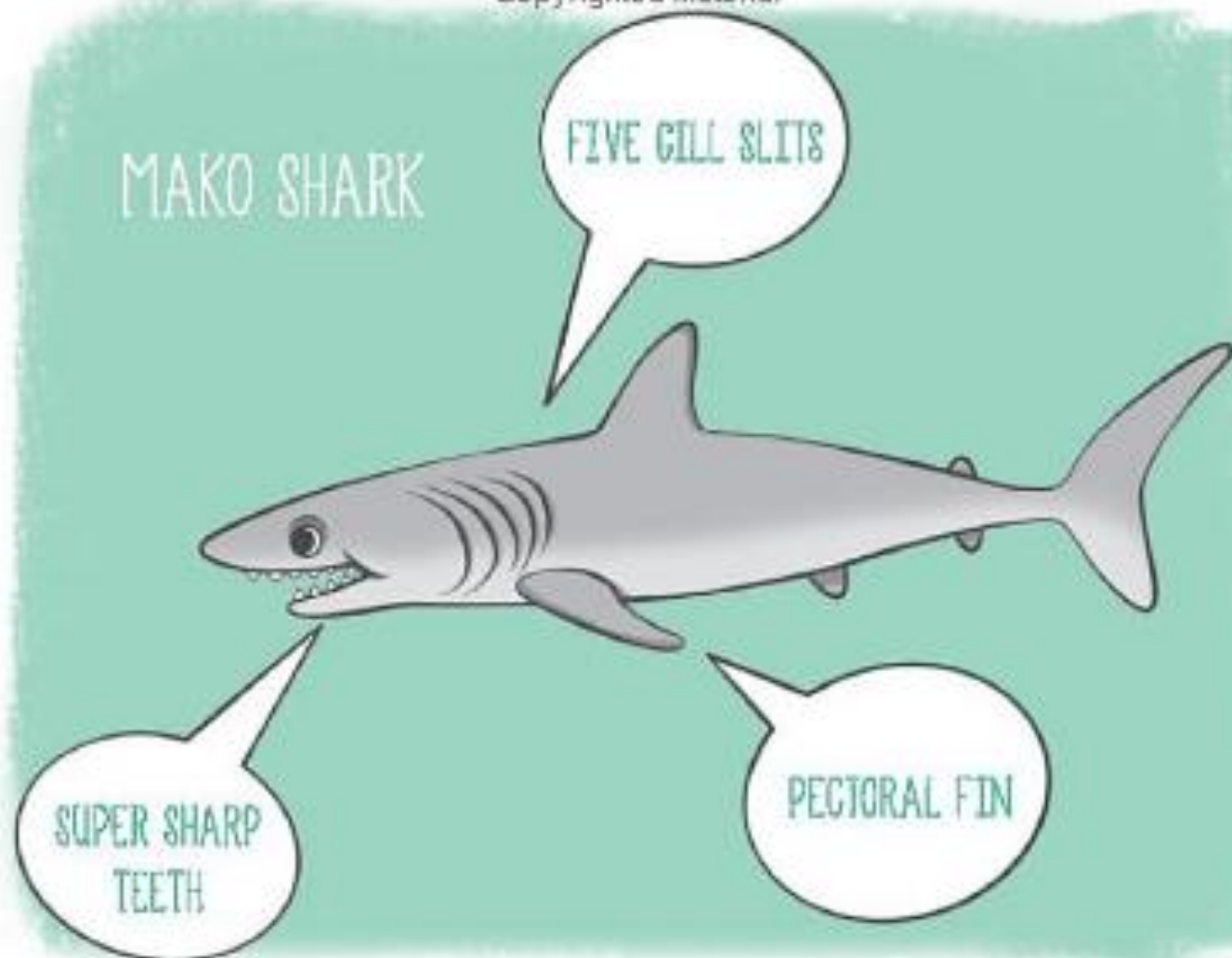
Of course the best thing about school is science class. Our teacher, Ms. Collier, comes up with the coolest experiments. Which is why I was so happy this morning to hear her say, "Class, I have a very exciting project to tell you about!"

What would it be? Sharks? Electricity? How sharks use electricity to catch prey?

Nope. It turns out she was talking about *art*.

"Class, this week we will begin working on our biggest art project of the year."

Okay, that sounded fine. Maybe I'd draw a diagram of sharks, or electricity . . .



Ms. Collier continued, “The project is called *This Is Me*, and it should be an artistic expression of what makes *you* special. I’m giving you a lot of freedom with this project. You can do just about anything you want.”

“Anything?” I squeaked.

“Anything.” She smiled. “You can use any materials you find at home, or you can even do a performance. Just make sure your artwork will fit through the door because all projects will be shared at the Family Showcase.”

There went my idea for a life-size cardboard model of a mako shark.

“My only other rule,” said Ms. Collier, “is that you do this project on your own. No help from friends or family, please.”

My best friend, Claudia, leaned in close. “I love projects with hardly any rules. This is going to be so much fun!”

There is a saying that goes,



THE NIGHT BEFORE THE BIG DAY

* FRIDAY *

Tonight is the perfect night to start a new diary because there is no way I can fall asleep!

Tomorrow is our family picnic. Why am I so excited, Diary? It's just a normal, old family picnic, right?

Except our picnic is in the clouds.

And our family is definitely *not* normal.

I just triple-checked all my stuff for tomorrow:

Lucky socks ✓

Lucky purple tiara ✓

Lucky dress (the only one I have that isn't ripped!) ✓

