

ACTIVITY: Snorkeling
CASE: GSAF 2010.01.09.d
DATE: Saturday January 9, 2010
LOCATION: Thursday Island, Queensland, Australia.

NAME: Reenie Morrissey
DESCRIPTION: She is a nine-year-old female from Townsville.

BACKGROUND
DEPTH OF WATER: Three metres.

NARRATIVE: The girl was snorkeling with friends when the shark bit her knee.

INJURY: Two sets of minor lacerations below her right knee.

FIRST AID / TREATMENT: The girl's mother put antiseptic liquid on the injury.

SPECIES: The accident involved a whitetip reef shark about one metre in length.



Reef shark bites Townsville girl, 9.

A NINE-year-old Townsville girl was bitten by a white tip reef shark while snorkelling on a reef off Thursday Island in far north Queensland yesterday.

Reenie Morrissey was snorkelling with friends in about three metres of water when the "grumpy" 1m shark bit her twice on the knee, her mother Michelle Murphy said. Reenie was given first aid at the scene for the wounds.

"The shark was a bit grumpy and had a go at the kids. The shark had two chomps at her. Luckily it bit her knee otherwise it would have hung on a bit longer, " Ms Murphy said.

"Reenie went pale and into a bit of shock, but later she was laughing about it. Now she's got a good holiday story to tell her school buddies.

"We've snorkelled in that area 100 times and nobody has been bitten before."

SOURCE: Courier-Mail, Sunday January 10, 2010,
<http://www.news.com.au/couriermail/story/0,,26572370-3102,00.html>