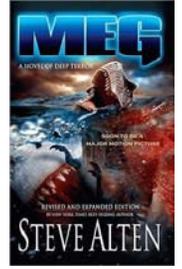




MEG: A Novel of Deep Terror CURRICULUM & PROJECT IDEAS



Dear Teachers:

One of the goals of the ADOPT-AN-AUTHOR program is to assist teachers by providing a pool of easily accessible curriculum and project ideas. Materials will grow as more teachers e-mail me their ideas over the coming school year. I hope you participate.

MEG is the first in a series featuring *Carcharodon Megalodon*, the fearsome 60-foot, 40,000 pound prehistoric cousin of the great white shark. The TRENCH is part two in the series, followed by PRIMAL WATERS, and HELLS AQUARIUM, with more in the works. If you have not read MEG, you will find it to be a fast-paced page-turner – something that will keep your readers on the edge of their seats.

The interactive website: www.SteveAlten.com offers supplemental information for each book, as well as educational links, contests for readers, exciting tours, background information on how I was published, and free downloadable images. Everything is designed to enhance your student's reading experience.

One of the best and most unique aspects of the Adopt-An-Author program is having direct access to a New York Times Best-Selling author. I invite your students to e-mail me. A link is provided on the website. I read each and every e-mail, then send out a personalized reply to each letter. This is NOT an automated response. Second and third letters are handled differently.

All of my novels are part of the ACCELERATED READER program and the SCHOLASTIC READING COUNTS program.

As a former educator, it is my goal to provide teachers with a very unique program that combines thrilling novels with exciting curriculums and opportunities for students to converse with a best-selling author. I am personally financing this entire venture. This is my commitment to you. All I request is that (once you see the results) you simply spread the word about the program throughout your school and among your peers.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or input.

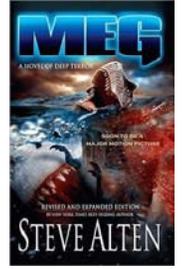
I think you will be impressed!

–Steve Alten



CURRICULUM MATERIALS

Because students also have access to this section, answers to questions will only be provided via e-mail (at your request) to the teacher's e-mail address registered in the Adopt-An-Author program.



Materials are divided as follows:

1. Characters
2. Chronological Events
3. Vocabulary
4. True-False Questions
5. Discussion Points
6. Projects
7. Multiple Choice Questions
8. Science/Oceanography
9. Megalodon Shark Anatomy
10. Settings
11. Creative Writing

CHARACTERS

Major Characters:

Prof. Jonas Taylor

Terry Tanaka

Mac

Masao Tanaka

Maggie Taylor

Bud Harris

Dr. Frank Heller

Minor Characters:

D.J. Tanaka

Richard Danielson

David Adashek

Alphonse DeMarco

Capt. Leon Barre

Phillipe

Commander McGovern

André Dupont

Dr. Tsukamoto

Dr. Simidu

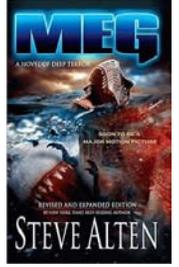
Fred Henderson

Harold Ray

Dennis Heller



CHRONOLOGICAL EVENTS



1. The T-Rex stalked its prey into the sea and became the victim of _____.
2. Professor Jonas Taylor lectures in The Scripps Institute about _____.
3. Maggie Taylor earned the Golden Eagle for her work about _____.
4. UNIS submersibles had been deployed along a 125 mile stretch of the Mariana Trench to _____.
5. Masao Tanaka's dream project was a sanctuary for _____.
6. The small cockpit of the Beechcraft bothers Jonas because he suffers from _____.
7. Maggie Taylor pays _____, a reporter to follow Jonas and make him look bad.
8. Terry wants to be the submersible pilot to go with D.J. to _____.
9. In the Mariana Trench seven years earlier, Jonas thought he saw a _____ and rocketed toward the surface.
10. The name of Masao's ship is the _____.
11. Jonas knew Frank Heller from his days in the _____.
12. The Abyss Gliders can fly to the bottom at a rate of _____.
13. Jonas didn't eat his dinner the night before the dive into the deep because _____.
14. The warm layer of the canyon is heated by _____.
15. The Meg's color is easy to see in the deep dark because it _____.
16. The male Meg was trapped by _____ and killed by _____.
17. After D. J.'s catastrophe, Jonas made it to the top in the _____.
18. Maggie rushes to Guam to _____.
19. Jonas tells Terry the female shark could be on the surface because _____.
20. Jonas meets _____ in Saipan.
21. In Saipan, Jonas sees evidence of the female Meg from the carcass of a _____.
22. The first nuclear-powered submarine was the _____.
23. The Cousteau Society wants to _____ the Meg.
24. Mac's helicopter will be used to _____.
25. The Megalodon launched straight out of the sea like an intercontinental ballistic missile to attack _____.
26. List three important differences between the AG I, and the AG II: _____.
27. The surfer Michael Barnes thought he ran into a _____.
28. Jim Richards' surfboard was crushed like a carton of eggs in a trash compactor by _____.

29. The Japanese vessel, *Tsunami* had an illegal catch of eight _____.
30. Frank Heller stretched out his hand but could not save _____.
31. Maggie Taylor took her expedition to the _____ Islands.
32. The stench surrounding the *Magnate* came from _____.
33. The female MEG gave birth to _____ male pup(s), and _____ female pup(s).
34. One male MEG pup died when _____.
35. Maggie Taylor's experience with the Meg ended with _____.
36. Jonas learns that David Adashek is a reporter for the same network as _____.
37. Another male Meg pup died when _____.
38. The adult female Meg is no longer limited to surfacing at night after she becomes _____.
39. The passengers on Captain Jack's Whale Watcher watch horrified as a whale _____.
40. The large dosage of pentobarbital and ketamine shut down the Meg's _____.
41. On-board the AG-I, Jonas uses the retractable arm of the mini-sub to _____.
42. In checking the hull of the *Kiku*, Jonas discovers _____.
43. Frank Heller, Dick Danielson, and Bud Harris anchor the *Magnate* near the Tanaka Lagoon in order to _____.
44. When Mac smilingly yells, "Mac Attack!," he is _____.
45. During the chaos just outside the Tanaka Lagoon, Masao Tanaka suffers a _____.
46. David Adashek gets the helicopter to land on the *Kiku* by _____.
47. What happened to the hordes of pleasure boaters who got too close to the action? _____.
48. What wakes up the Meg? _____.
49. When the eight news helicopters realize how massive the Megalodon actually is, they panic and _____.
50. Jonas saves Terry's life when he _____.
51. The chapter, "The Gates of Hell," refers to _____.
52. Jonas uses the fossilized black tooth to _____.
53. Jonas leaves the escape pod to _____.
54. When the escape pod gets trapped, Jonas has to _____.
55. _____ pulls Jonas out of the water.
56. Because the paleontologist rose to the surface too quickly, he gets a serious case of _____.
57. Jonas realizes that the white glowing shark the *Manitou* captured is really a _____.

ACRONYMS & VESSELS

Acronyms:

UNIS

JAMSTEC

AG I & AG II

Ships:

Seacliff

Kiku

Magnate

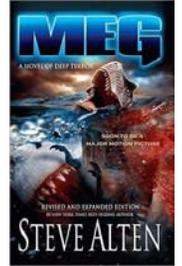
HMS Challenger

USS Nautilus

Tsunami



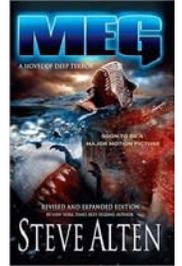
MEG VOCABULARY



Page numbers correspond with the revised edition, paperback version of this book, and the words listed appear on those pages, though they may also appear in other places throughout the book.

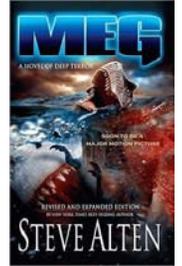
p. 2	Carcharodon megalodon	p. 108	desolate	p. 172	hemisphere
p. 5	predatory	p. 108	theorized	p. 173	culmination
p. 5	scavengers	p. 108	luminescent	p. 175	peninsula
p. 9	Coelacanth	p. 108	ceramic seals	p. 178	indicator
p. 12	hadal	p. 110	albino	p. 180	whale pods
p. 12	hydrothermal vents	p. 112	hallucinated	p. 180	theoretically
p. 12	decimated	p. 114	mesmerized	p. 180	tranquelize
p. 13	manganese	p. 115	adrenaline	p. 189	fluke
p. 13	chemosynthesis	p. 116	periphery	p. 193	rendezvous
p. 13	encrustations	p. 117	gargantuan	p. 197	decommissioned
p. 13	holocene	p. 118	torso	p. 208	neuromasts
p. 16	bathyscaphes	p. 120	pectoral fins	p. 208	lacerations
p. 21	melanoma	p. 120	spasms	p. 209	quivering
p. 24	aberrations	p. 124	hyperextended	p. 215	maelstrom
p. 24	psychiatric	p. 127	groped	p. 216	gnashing
p. 29	radioactive	p. 127	ascend	p. 216	starboard
p. 33	submersible	p. 127	jettisoned	p. 228	phosphorescent
p. 36	titanium	p. 127	suffocating	p. 228	frenzy
p. 39	stalagmites	p. 127	claustrophobia	p. 232	controversy
p. 42	cetacean	p. 129	caudal fin	p. 239	subduction
p. 43	obstinate	p. 130	perimeter	p. 243	pinniped
p. 50	nauseating	p. 133	hypothermia	p. 249	contortions
p. 54	inhabitants	p. 133	bombarding	p. 250	litter
p. 59	ampullae of Lorenzini	p. 134	furtively	p. 262	sculling
p. 62	tube worms	p. 134	paleobiologist	p. 264	unfathomable
p. 69	predecessor	p. 137	paralleling	p. 278	legacy
p. 70	Riftia	p. 141	devastated	p. 294	sensory
p. 71	spewing	p. 143	thermocline	p. 295	plummeting
p. 77	lexan	p. 143	abandon	p. 298	evolution
p. 79	alloy	p. 151	originating	p. 301	listing
p. 81	black smokers	p. 151	environment	p. 303	vigil
p. 91	denticles	p. 151	tantalizing	p. 312	dirigible
p. 94	conjecture	p. 152	infrastructures	p. 327	simultaneously
p. 97	tapestry	p. 155	free enterprise	p. 343	regurgitating
p. 101	abyssopelagic	p. 156	kindred	p. 346	excretions
p. 101	bioluminescent	p. 156	disdain	p. 347	discernible
p. 101	cardiac monitor	p. 157	seaworthy	p. 353	hyperventilating
p. 103	massive	p. 159	submerged	p. 355	esophagus
p. 104	vertigo	p. 169	genetic	p. 356	wedged
p. 107	luminous	p. 169	aggressive	p. 357	conical
p. 107	digital	p. 170	migration	p. 358	mantra
p. 107	luciferins	p. 170	ecological	p. 361	recompression chamber
p. 107	bizarre	p. 172	junction	p. 362	bends

MEG TRUE-FALSE QUESTIONS



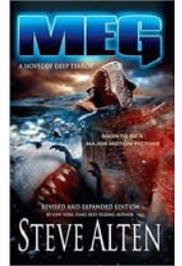
- True False 1. The T-Rex enters the water to eat the Megalodon.
- True False 2. Jonas was once a submersible pilot.
- True False 3. Megalodons fed on whales.
- True False 4. Humans killed off Megalodons.
- True False 5. Life cannot exist without sunlight.
- True False 6. Fossilized Meg teeth are white.
- True False 7. Terry wants Jonas to pilot the mini-sub into the Mariana Trench so she doesn't have to go.
- True False 8. The Tanaka lagoon was originally designed to hold Megalodons and giant squids.
- True False 9. Megs can detect the heartbeat of its prey from long distances.
- True False 10. The Mariana Trench is an unexplored gorge.
- True False 11. The Mariana Trench is seven miles deep.
- True False 12. The Mariana Trench is located off Hawaii.
- True False 13. LEXAN is a type of bullet-proof glass.
- True False 14. Hydrothermal vents can spew mineralized water at temperatures as high as 700 degrees Fahrenheit.
- True False 15. A shark's caudal fin is its tail.
- True False 16. Sunlight can penetrate to the bottom of the Mariana Trench.
- True False 17. Many species living in the abyss glow to attract their prey.
- True False 18. The first nuclear submarine was the Nautilus.
- True False 19. JAMSTEC is a Japanese toy company.
- True False 20. The "bends" comes from excess nitrogen in the blood.

MEG DISCUSSION POINTS



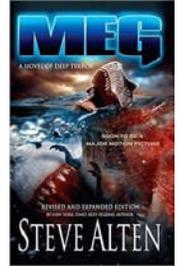
1. Why does Jonas Taylor want to return to the Mariana Trench if he almost died there seven years earlier?
2. Could Megalodons really still exist?
3. If a Megalodon was discovered, should we leave it alone, kill it, or capture it?
4. Why does the Mariana Trench remain unexplored? Should we explore it?

MEG PROJECTS



1. Create a detailed sketch of a scene in the book.
2. Write a biography on one of the main characters.
3. Write two journal entries from a character's point of view.
4. Give a two minute speech about the novel in front of the class.
5. Create a collage based on the novel.
6. Make a papier mâché a replica of:
 - a) A Megalodon
 - b) A Megalodon tooth
 - c) A mini-sub
7. Contact the Author via e-mail and interview him.
8. Create a book cover design or movie poster.
9. Design a video game for MEG.
10. Cast characters for the MEG movie.
11. Do a book report on:
 - a) Megalodon sharks
 - b) Deep-sea submersibles
 - c) Mariana Trench
 - d) Hydrothermal vents
12. Website assignments:
 - a) download a free image
 - b) write to the author
13. Read: **The Trench**, the sequel to MEG, plus **Primal Waters** and **Hells Aquarium**.

MEG MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS



1. Carcharodon Megalodon means:

A. Big shark	B. Big tooth
C. Big predator	D. Big mouth

2. Megalodons may have become extinct for all BUT the following reasons:

A. Change in ocean temperatures	B. Lack of food
C. Hunted by man	D. None of the above

3. Jonas decides to return to the Mariana Trench because:

A. He wants to kill a Meg.	B. He wants to prove he's a man to Terry.
C. He wants to help Masao capture a live Meg.	D. He wants to find a white tooth to prove the sharks exist.

4. Life forms living in the abyss often glow to:

A. Attract prey	B. Attract mates
C. All of the above	D. None of the above

5. The female Meg escapes the Mariana Trench by:

A. Following the dead male's warm blood trail to the surface.	B. Following Jonas's mini-sub to the surface.
C. It is hooked and hauled to the surface by the <i>Kiku</i> .	D. It hunts down the <i>Kiku</i> , surfacing to attack.

6. The Meg attacks the Nautilus because:

A. It is hungry	B. It is aroused by the sonar pings
C. It thinks it is another Meg.	D. It knows Jonas is on-board

7. Jonas's plan to capture the Meg is to:

A. Lure it into the Tanaka lagoon with a dead whale.	B. Drug it, then haul it into the Tanaka lagoon in a big net.
C. Capture it on a big hook	D. Attract it by using sonar pings

8. The chapter entitled, "The Gates of Hell" refers to:

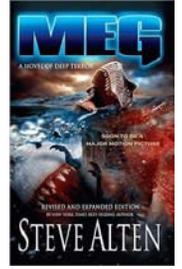
A. Jonas's marriage to Maggie	B. The Mariana Trench
C. Hydrothermal vents	D. The Meg's jaws

9. Jonas kills the Meg by:

A. Overdosing it with drugs	B. Ramming it with his mini-sub
C. Electrocuting it	D. Ripping out its heart

10. In the final scene, Jonas realizes:

A. They have captured a baby Meg.	B. He is suffering from the bends.
C. He loves Terry.	D. All of the above



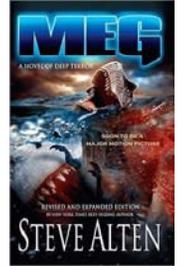
Define the following:

1. Deep sea trenches _____
2. Hydrothermal vents _____
3. Thermocline _____
4. Hadal zone _____
5. Challenger Deep _____
6. JAMSTEC _____
7. Bathyscape _____
8. Tube worms _____
9. Dermal denticles _____
10. Argonaut _____
11. Red Triangle _____
12. Caudal Fin _____

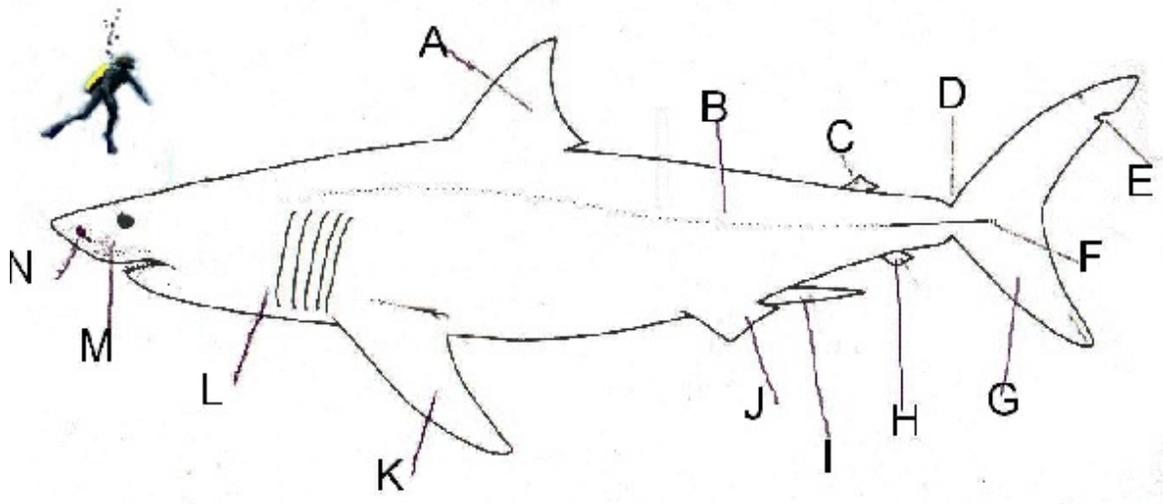
Matching:

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| _____ Carcharodon Megalodon | A. Black smoker |
| _____ Carcharodon Carcharias | B. Big tooth |
| _____ Hydrothermal vent | C. Great white shark |
| _____ Hadal zone | D. Warm-cold layer |
| _____ Thermocline | E. Rear of a boat |
| _____ Cetacean | F. Right side of a boat |
| _____ Coelacanth | G. Abyssal regions |
| _____ Nautilus | H. Classification of whales |
| _____ Starboard | I. A lobe-finned fish once believed extinct |
| _____ Stern | J. Left side of a boat |
| _____ Bow | K. Front of a boat |
| _____ Port | L. World's first nuclear submarine |

MEG: A NOVEL OF DEEP TERROR
MEGALODON SHARK ANATOMY

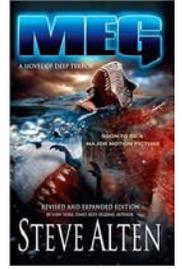


- | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| _____ Nostrils | _____ Caudal Fin | |
| _____ Pre-caudal Notch | _____ Lateral Line | _____ Anal Fin |
| _____ Pelvic Fin | _____ Clasper (males only) | _____ Caudal Notch |
| _____ Gill Slits | _____ Second Dorsal Fin | _____ Caudal Keel |
| _____ Dorsal Fin | _____ Ampullae of Lorenzini | _____ Pectoral Fin |



MEG SETTINGS

1. Hadal Zone
2. Mariana Trench
3. Institute in Monterey, CA
4. Tanaka Oceanographic Institute
5. Tanaka Lagoon
6. The Challenger Deep
7. Hydrothermal vents
8. Saipan
9. Oahu's Sunset Beach, Hawaii
10. D. J. Tanaka Memorial Lagoon
11. Monterey Bay Canyon
12. Farallon Islands
13. Galapagos Islands
14. Monterey Bay Sanctuary





MEG CREATIVE WRITING

Assignment:

Create your own Megalodon shark attack scene. Be sure to include:

- a) Characters involved
- b) Setting
- c) Vantage Point of:
 - 1) Victims
 - 2) Megalodon
 - 3) Third Person Narrative

