

Sharks Join Twitter To Warn Beach-Goers



Sometimes news helicopters take pictures of the water near a beach. The news will show people swimming at the beach, and sharks swimming just a short distance away.

If the swimmers knew the sharks were that close, everyone would get out of the water! In the past, people had no way to know how close the sharks were.

That has changed. Thanks to modern technology and social media, people can keep track of sharks more easily.

Scientists in Australia have attached transmitters to 320 sharks. These transmitters send messages to nearby computers when the sharks get close to the beach, and the messages get sent to a Twitter account.

Surf Life Saving Western Australia's Twitter feed automatically posts warnings when sharks are close to the beach.

Of course, sending out a tweet when you're off playing around in the ocean isn't very helpful, as you're unlikely to have your phone with you. But, checking the feed before you hop into the water is obviously safer than going in blind.

What do you think of this system?