



Season 1
Writers Bible

About the Show

Sharkdog is about Max and his unlikely pet, Sharkdog. Who's part shark part dog. At first, Max tries to keep Sharkdog a secret, but in Foggy Springs best friends, nosy neighbors, and even Max's parents are bound to notice his new, rambunctious best friend.

Adventure abounds in this episodic comedy about a boy and his unusual pet.

Show Format

20x7min episodes

Targeted at kids between 5-8



Main Characters

MAX FISHER, 10 years old, is the kind of kid we all want to be – and the kind of kid we all want to be friends with! He approaches each day with huge amounts of energy (sometimes exhausting his Mom and Dad), and often finds himself getting into trouble because he leaps before he looks. Max has big feelings and big moods, but his main characteristic is that he's irrepressible: it takes a lot to get Max down (though when he gets down, it's BIG). As an outdoorsy kid who loves the flora and fauna of his town, Foggy Springs, Max is up for any adventure, and often can be found on the lagoon with his paddleboard. He's also a true-blue friend, which is why his best friends Olivia and Royce love him like crazy and would do anything for him. They'll follow him into just about any wild scheme, and they'll often have to help him get out of trouble – especially after he meets his new buddy, SHARKDOG: a pet, and friend, better than his wildest dreams.



Main Characters

Max's life changes forever when he meets

SHARKDOG, a little land shark who's both an adorable puppy... and a hungry predator! Sharkdog surprises Max by chasing him out of the water and onto land, but Sharkdog's doggy side is quickly apparent: he wags his tail, chases tennis balls, licks faces, and occasionally sniffs butts. And he has the undying loyalty of a dog, especially to Max, who he loves and protects. But Sharkdog also does a lot of things dogs can't do. Most notably, he really is that half-SHARK! He has sharp teeth, he'll eat anything, he has enormous strength, and possesses boundless energy even greater than Max's... and he's been known to go into "sharkmode" at the smell of fish. It can be a little intimidating, and Max often wonders if he's taken on too much. But no matter what, their relationship isn't just owner and pet: it's a real solid friendship between a boy and his (shark)dog – a friendship for the ages.



Max's Family

LARRY FISHER: DAD, AQUARIUM WORKER – AND UKULELE ENTHUSIAST!

Dad stands tall in Max's imagination, figuratively – and literally, too, since he's one of the tallest, broadest guys in Foggy Springs! He's a devoted father, crazy about his wife, and an excitable gardener. Like June, he wants to see that Max is happy and safe – but his idea of safe is maybe a liiiittle more relaxed than June would like, if he stopped to think about it. Unlike his wife, who worries about the details, Larry is generally a big picture guy, trying to do too many things at once, and he gets unglued by things like Baby Mia not getting to sleep, or by his gardening for the town competition not turning out as he planned.

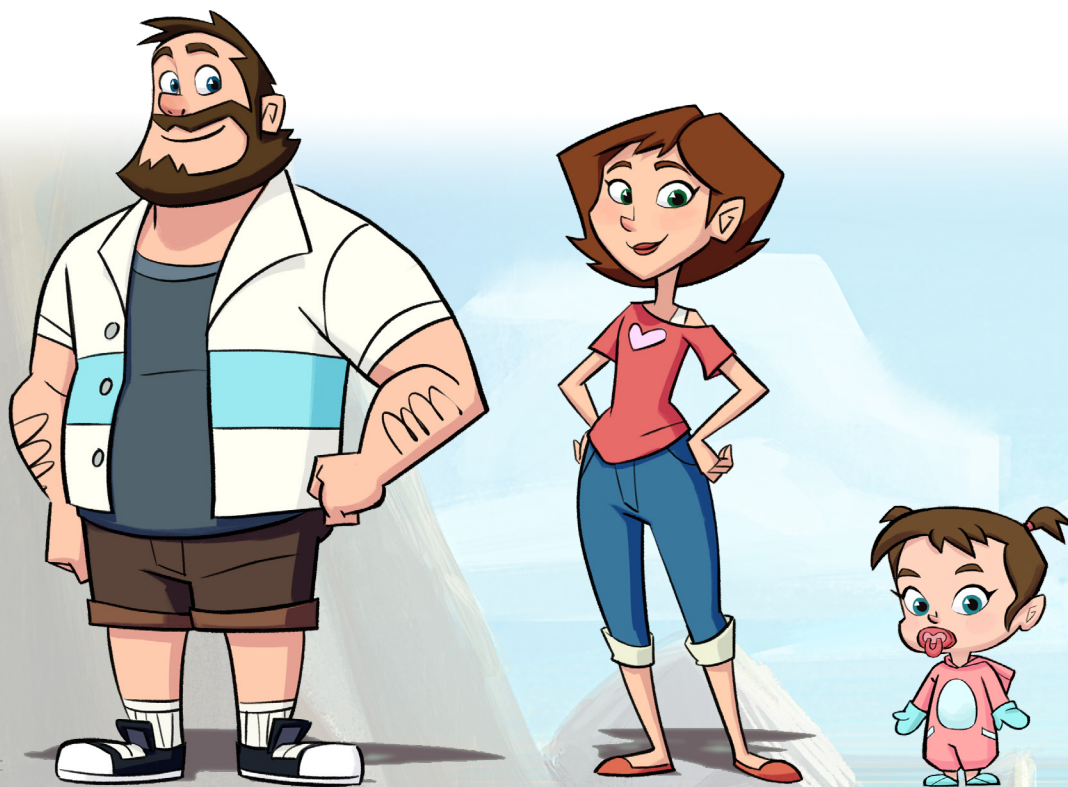
JUNE FISHER: LOVING MOTHER, AND TOWN REPORTER FOR THE FOGGY SPRINGS GAZETTE

Max couldn't have a better, more loving Mom than JUNE FISHER! She's resourceful, patient, and usually amused by Max's antics. June came from a family of sisters, so she's not used to having a boy around the house (well, two boys, if you count Dad, who's pretty much a big kid himself). No matter: Mom is enjoying the challenge. She wants to make sure Max is safe, of course, but she also wants to make sure that he's happy. She has a strong moral compass and an easygoing sense of humor. But June isn't defined by her role as mom: she's a reporter at the Foggy Springs Gazette, the town newspaper. There's she's often stuck on the boring stuff like statue unveilings, traffic developments, and weather reports – but since she read a lot of Nancy Drew mysteries as a kid, she's craving every chance she gets to ferret out secrets as an investigative reporter.

MIA, MAX'S TODDLER SISTER

Toddler MIA is Max's little sister: adorable, chubby-cheeked, and into absolutely everything, Mia takes up a ton of Max's parents' attention and time –which is maybe why Mom and Dad have trouble noticing that Max is keeping a land shark as a pet! Mia is always getting into Max's room and messing up his stuff, but he's not really annoyed by her; no, he loves her to pieces - and most of all, he love love LOVES being a big brother. Mia doesn't do anything Max says (in fact, she often mischievously does exactly the opposite!), so Max is primarily occupied with making sure that she doesn't get ahold of Sharkdog. At first, he's scared that Sharkdog will eat Mia... but to his surprise he finds that the danger goes the other way: Mia is obsessed with Sharkdog, and wants to cuddle him and hug him and dress him up... so Sharkdog is actually terrified of her.

Max's Family



Max's Friends

ROYCE

(First Appearance: Ep 104)

ROYCE is the smartest kid Max knows, and a great friend to Max, Sharkdog, and Olivia. He loves to think things through – sometimes too much - and he likes to make elaborate plans and build Rube-Goldberg type machines. A naturally conservative dresser – even preppy - Royce is gentle and cautious, a kid who is a bit afraid of life; he often needs to be coaxed into outrageous plans by Max and Olivia. But Royce is really good with animals, and so Sharkdog takes to him immediately; Sharkdog especially loves it when Max makes a new gadget to dispense fish-food treats, or builds a new DIY treadmill out of cardboard boxes and toilet paper rolls so that Sharkdog can get some exercise while cooped up in Max's room.



OLIVIA

(First Appearance: Ep 104)

OLIVIA is forthright, friendly, and always the first to take on a challenge or a dare. She always has Max's back: Whatever Max wants to do? SHE'S IN! Whatever scheme Max thinks up: SHE'S READY! Any plan that seems crazy? IT'S NOT TOO CRAZY FOR OLIVIA! She's a leap-before-you-look kind of girl who's blunt about everything, which sometimes puts people off - but Max loves her frankness. To go with her boldness and brashness, Olivia loves bright colors and bold patterns on her clothes. She's also naturally funny, though she probably wouldn't see it that way: she's just one of those kids who calls it as she sees it, and phrases everything in a way that makes everybody belly laugh.



Additional Foggy Springs Residents

CAPTAIN BARB QUIGLEY, THE LOCAL SHARK FISHERWOMAN (FIRST APPEARANCE: EP 103)

Every seaside community has a colorful local fisherman or two, and Foggy Springs is especially lucky: this town has a colorful local fisherwoman! CAPTAIN BARB QUIGLEY is a formidable force, a font of knowledge of all things nautical. She's ex-Navy and knows how to do pretty much anything on a boat: fly a jib, trim a sail, or set a course around the island through the fog.

ANNABELLE, MAX'S PADDLEBOARD INSTRUCTOR (FIRST APPEARANCE: EP 101)

ANNABELLE is Max's beloved paddleboard instructor and a lifeguard at the town pool. She often functions as an adult(ish) authority figure and supervisor when we need Max to be doing something that a kid couldn't – or shouldn't – do without supervision. Annabelle is an older teenager who wears her hair long so her bangs often cover her eyes, so she sometimes misses things she should be seeing - like Sharkdog's fin in the water!

MR. HEUBEL, THE NOSY NEIGHBOR (First Appearance: Ep 102)

ISkinny, a dapper dresser, and wearing a toupee to cover his thinning hair, MISTER HEUBEL is a bachelor on the late side of middle-age; he's extremely particular about his house and fussy about his garden, which is elegantly landscaped with a pond stocked with fat koi (a fish that Sharkdog finds absolutely irresistible).

DENNIS MUCKFORD, MAYOR'S SON AND MAX'S NEMESIS (First Appearance: Ep 105)

DENNIS is Mayor Muckford's bratty kid: spoiled by his mom, for whom Dennis can do no wrong, he's grown up with privilege and money. As the son of the town's most prominent figure, he's used to demanding (and receiving) special treatment. Dennis really isn't very good at many things – not surprising, because he's not a hard worker – but he's used to winning trophies and 1st place ribbons anyway because of who he is.

MAYOR MUCKFORD, BUREAUCRAT EXTRAORDINAIRE (First Appearance: Ep 103)

MAYOR MUCKFORD is the comically officious leader of Foggy Springs. Even though she's just the mayor of a small town, you wouldn't know it from how she carries herself: she's got the ego and self-certainty of a head of state. Relentlessly cheerful, she's a whirlwind of energy and action. Mayor Muckford has a knack for spinning even the most disastrous news into media gold: *"Well, I wouldn't call it a 'locust invasion' – I call it an entomological wonder, unique to Foggy Springs!"*

Setting

Max and Sharkdog live in Foggy Springs, a fictional island in the middle of the ocean. There is a typical coastal life. They live one sandy path away from the beach, go fishing, and mostly spend all day outside.

Foggy Springs doesn't exist in our world, but it's similar to a New England or New Zealand type island. Less tropical and more fishing village.



Season 1 Episodes Loglines

101 - "Fins in the Water"

Max is desperate for a dog, but when he finds Sharkdog while paddleboarding he gets a pet - and friend - who is way more bizarre and fun than he expected.

102 - "Home Sweet Sharkdog"

Max's new best friend, Sharkdog, comes home with him, but keeping him a secret from his parents is a challenge.

103 - "Unfetch"

When Sharkdog fetches items that belong to the residents of Foggy Springs, Max needs to help him return them all before anyone notices.

104 - "Sharkdoghouse"

Max needs to create a permanent home for Sharkdog and he knows that his best friends, Olivia and Royce, are just the people to help him.

105 - "Sharkdog Digs In"

Dad desperately wants to win Garden of the Year but when Sharkdog destroys the garden right before judging, the Sharkpack needs to step in and put it all in order.



106 - "Great Shark Hunter"

Max needs to find more and more fishsticks to keep Sharkdog fed, but his search leads him right into the path of the increasingly suspicious Captain Barb Quigley.

107 - "Sharks, Sharks, Sharks"

Max and Dad are excited to continue their tradition of watching a sharks TV show together, but this year Sharkdog wants to be included.

108 - "Sharkdog Home Alone"

When the Fishers go out to dinner, Sharkdog is left home alone for the first time.

110 - "My Fair Sharkdog"

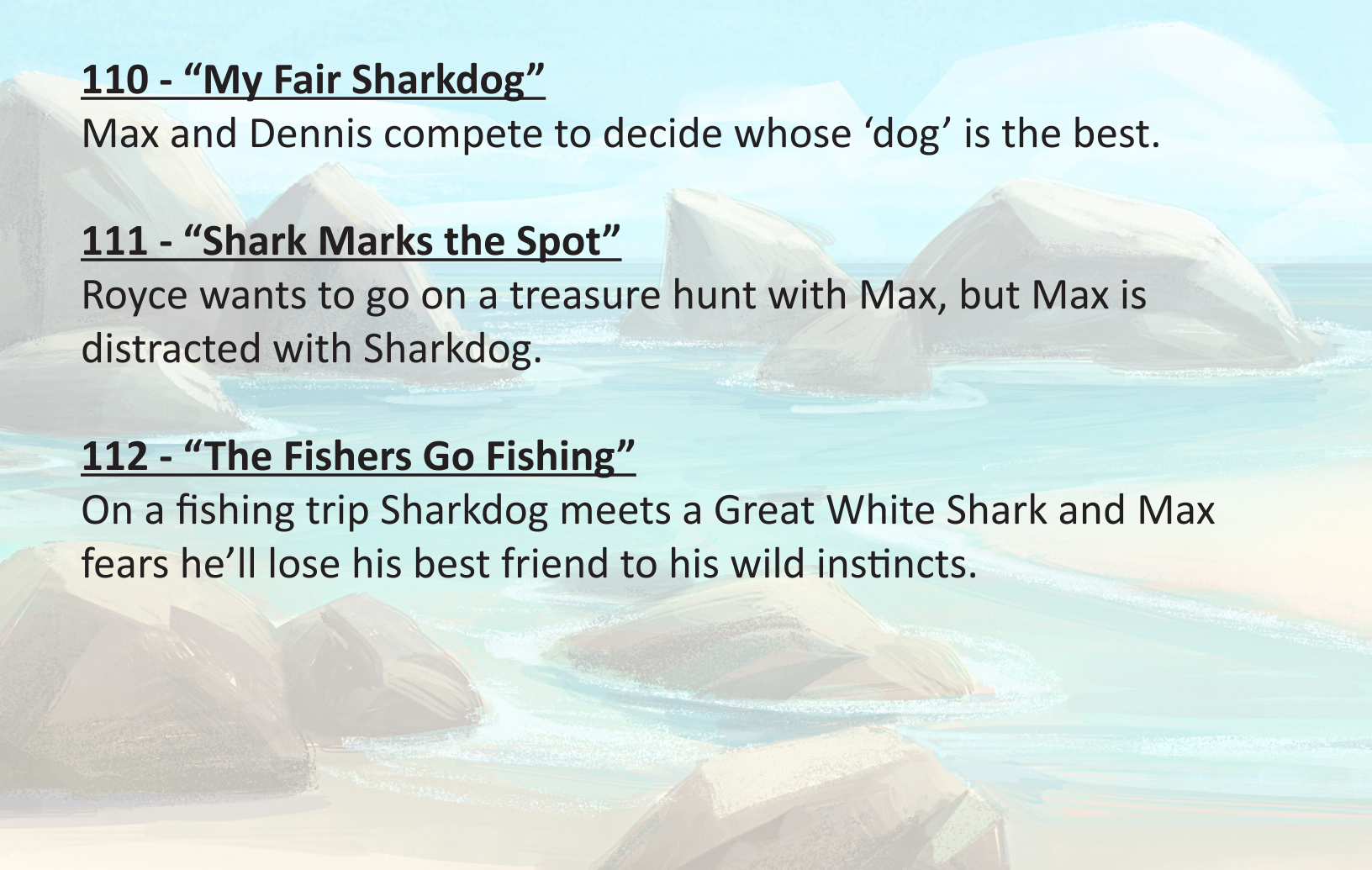
Max and Dennis compete to decide whose 'dog' is the best.

111 - "Shark Marks the Spot"

Royce wants to go on a treasure hunt with Max, but Max is distracted with Sharkdog.

112 - "The Fishers Go Fishing"

On a fishing trip Sharkdog meets a Great White Shark and Max fears he'll lose his best friend to his wild instincts.



113 - “Hide-and-Go-Shark”

Max and his friends visit Dad at the aquarium, but can they keep Dad from discovering Sharkdog?

114 - “Green Around the Gills”

Max is ready to go on his fun camping trip, when Sharkdog comes down with a mysterious illness.

115 - “A Storm in Foggy Springs”

A terrible storm spooks Sharkdog and he gets loose, threatening to be caught by mom.

116 - “Poots and Vegetables”

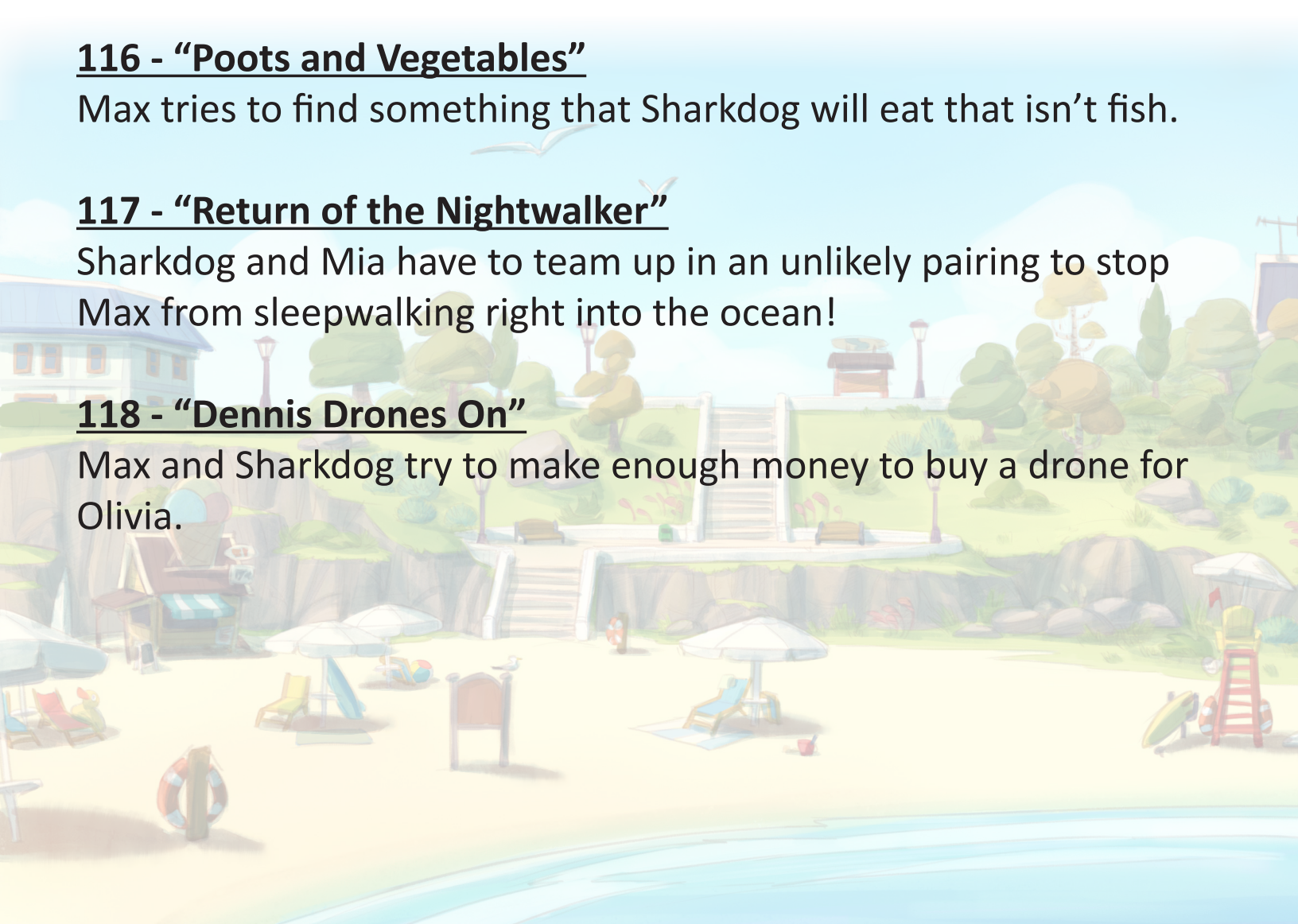
Max tries to find something that Sharkdog will eat that isn't fish.

117 - “Return of the Nightwalker”

Sharkdog and Mia have to team up in an unlikely pairing to stop Max from sleepwalking right into the ocean!

118 - “Dennis Drones On”

Max and Sharkdog try to make enough money to buy a drone for Olivia.



119 - “The Sharkdogsitter”

While Max is out Olivia babysits Sharkdog, but can't keep him inside.

120 - “Fish Fiesta Freakout”

Everyone's excited for the Foggy Springs carnival, but it's getting more and more difficult to keep Sharkdog a secret.

121 - “Sharkdog, Family”

When the town discovers Sharkdog, Max needs to convince everyone that he's not a monster.

