

Marvel at bizarre fish in the ocean

Until now humans have only discovered 5% of mysteries in the vast ocean. The strange animals that surprised us are the best proof of the mysteries of the sea. Eel wolves, sheep heads, red-lip bats, ... are three of the most bizarre shaped fish that humans have ever known to live in the ocean.

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Red lip bat fish



Photos: Wikipedia

The red lip bats have the scientific name of **Ogcocephalus darwini** living in the Galapagos Islands of Ecuador on Pacific waters, according to Encyclopedia of Life. This fish possesses "sensitive" lips as it is used to attract mates or prey.

We can only find this fish at a depth of 30 m under the sea. Red lip bat fish can reach a length of 25 cm. In particular, they have a structure of pectoral and dorsal fins that look like limbs, so they have a rather odd swimming style but are an effective means for this fish to go under the sea.

Fish long chimaera nose



Photo: Scott Tanner

In March 2016, Scott Tanner fishermen off the coast of Nova Scotia in eastern Canada discovered a strange fish with a long, nearly body-like nose, glowing green protruding eyes and pairs of fins like wings.

It is a fish of the Chimaera species, scientific name is **Harriotta raleighana**, living in deep waters. *H. raleighana*. According to scientists they have relatives with sharks, rays and stingrays and are **one of the oldest fish on earth**. They often crawl the seabed at a depth of about 380-2,600 m, find prey by induction of charge on the nose.

They use the long nose to push the body in the water and smash it like flapping wings to move.

California lamb head fish



Photo: Channel Islands Marine Reserve, USA

Semicossyphus pulcher live in coastal rocks and kelp forests from the Channel Islands to the Bay of Monterey, USA.

When born, all individuals of sheep head are children. By about 8 years some will turn into males and stay the same for nearly 50 years of their life.

Fish with long nose injection



Photo: NOAA

The tongue of a long nose (Alepisaurus ferox) is a carnivorous assassin known for its large fangs, large dorsal fins shaped like a sail. In the transition period before adulthood, the long-nosed tongue has both male and female genitalia. But scientists have not determined whether they maintain this duality when entering adulthood.

The long nose fish can reach a length of 2 m and is a killer fish that specializes in hunting at night. Their favorite prey is shellfish, squid and smaller fish that even eat their own flesh.

Lion fish



Photo: Walter Hackerott

The lion **fish** is also known as the **common lionfish** with a length of 30-38 cm and the body is full of poisonous spines to help them avoid the predation of all enemies. They reproduce very quickly, a female reaches her reproductive age at the age of one and can lay between 30,000 and 40,000 eggs a day.

Without enemies, spawning quickly makes the number of lion fish rapidly increase. According to scientists, the most effective way to control the number of fishes is human catching.

We can find this fish in tropical South Pacific waters.

Parrot fish



Photo: NOAA

This is a colorful fish with a beak-like mouth and strong teeth used to crush corals, eat algae inside. Therefore, most of the sand in the distribution of parrot fish is part of undigested coral that they emit out.

Sex, color and pattern on parrot fish body changes many times in their life cycle. Especially when sleeping, this fish will encase itself in a cocoon made of mucus secreted from a part of the head to hide the odor and avoid night predators.

Ocean sun fish



Photo: National Marine Reserve, Farallones Bay, USA

Giant ocean fish, also known as **mola mola**, is the world's largest bony fish because the adult male can reach an average length of 3.5 m, weighs 1.7 tons and 4 fin length. , 5 m. Sunfish have oval or nearly round bodies usually float to the surface to receive heat from sunlight. When this fish floats on the surface, we mistakenly think they are sharks because of their large dorsal fin.

Although the body is large, the Sun fish has a very small mouth. Because there are no teeth, they use their tongue to crush jellyfish, small crustaceans and plankton.

Scalloped fish



Photo: NOAA

Scallop **fish** include **coral reef fish** (*Manta Alfredi*) and **giant sea bass** (*Manta birostris*) that live in tropical, subtropical and temperate waters in the Indian Ocean, Atlantic and Pacific Ocean.

Scalloped fish is a large, flat fish with their fins length up to 9 m. Their food is plankton. Currently both species of crutches are listed as threatened in the Red Book of the International Union for Conservation of Nature.

Electric stingray



Photo: Daniel Gotshall

Electric stingray has a gray body and black dots. Stingray voltage depends on their size, small rays produce less than 10 volts and larger individuals are capable of generating up to 220 volts. Electric stingrays often catch prey with electric shocks. In addition, they use electrical sensitivity to detect predators, find partners and communicate with each other.

Moray eel



Photos: Wikipedia

The moray eel or **eel sea** consists of about 200 species of the Muraenidae family. They live mainly in the sea, some species are distributed in freshwater or brackish water. This fish possesses strong, sharp teeth like glass with a length of up to several centimeters.

Because the head is quite narrow, moray eels cannot swallow large prey, so they have another tooth inside their mouth to grab food and bring it to the stomach.

The food of moray eels is fish, crustaceans and mollusks.

Four-eyed butterfly fish



Photo: Chris Huss / Florida Islands National Marine Islands Marine Conservation Park, USA

This species belongs to *Chaetodon capistratus* family, residing in coral reefs in Florida Keys, USA. When two butterfly fishes are in a mouth-to-mouth pose, they will form butterfly wings, which is the reason for this fish's name.

Butterfly fishes are paired throughout the life cycle, so are often observed as a pair of swimmers side by side.

Puffer fish



Photos: Frank and Joyce Burek

The puffer fish (*Lactophrys triqueter*) is usually only white and black. But Dr. Christy Pattengill-Semmens, director of the Marine Conservation Center in San Diego, USA, recorded an unusual yellow individual and named the yellow moonfish puffer.

Eel wolf



Photo: Montereybayaquarium.org

Eel wolves are actually a fish belonging to the Anarhichadidae family. The distinguishing feature of them with eels is the pectoral fins behind the head.

The young eel wolves are quite prominent in the water with impressive bright yellow and purple bodies. As they grow, these colors fade, giving way to brown and gray. Adults often have black spots on their heads and different bodies in each individual.

They can grow to 203 cm, 18.6 kg and are found in the northern Pacific, from the waters of Japan and the Aleutian Islands to northern California.

Eel wolves are quite voracious. Their food is crabs, sea urchins, slugs, abalone, mussels and fish. Thanks to their powerful jaws, they can crush hard foods.

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