

Cerritos Library Aquarium - Current Fish Residents



Blue Tang (*Paracanthurus hepatus*)

Location: Indo-Pacific, seen in reefs of the Philippines, Indonesia, Japan, the Great Barrier Reef of Australia, New Caledonia, Samoa, East Africa, and Sri Lanka

Length: Up to 12 inches

Food: Omnivores, feed on plankton and algae

Characteristics: Live in pairs, or in small groups. Belong to group of fish called surgeonfish due to sharp spines on caudal peduncle (near tailfin). Spines are used only as a method of protection against aggressors



Naso Tang (*Naso lituratus*)

Other Names: Orangespine Unicornfish, Lipstick Tang, Tricolor Tang

Location: Indo-Pacific reefs

Length: Up to 2 feet

Food: Primarily herbivores, mostly feed on algae with some plankton

Characteristics: Like other surgeonfish, have a scalpel-like spine at the base of the tail for protection against aggressors.



Mata Tang (*Acanthurus mata*)

Other Names: Elongate Surgeonfish, Pale Surgeonfish

Location: Central Pacific, Eastern Asia

Length: Up to 20 inches

Food: Primarily herbivorous; diet includes algae, seaweed; occasionally carnivorous

Characteristics: Like other surgeonfish, have a scalpel-like spine at the base of the tail for protection against aggressors.



Emperor Snapper (*Lutjanus sebae*)

Other Names: Government Bream, King Snapper, Queenfish, Red Kelp.

Location: Indian and Pacific oceans

Length: Up to 40 inches

Food: It is a strict carnivore and eats a diet of rich, meaty foods such as shrimp, clam, fish (whole and/or chunked), squid, and other seafood

Characteristics: They have a sloped head, rusty red to pink body, pink pectoral fins and the rest of the fins are red. A dark red-brownish band runs from the tip of the snout and through the eye, a band from the middle of the dorsal fin to the pelvic fin, and a diagonal band from the end of the last dorsal spine to the lower caudal fin.



Mustard tang (*Acanthurus guttatus*)

Other Names: White spotted Surgeonfish

Location: Shallow waters on reefs in the Indo-Pacific

Length: Up to 12 inches

Food: Primarily herbivorous; diet includes algae, seaweed

Characteristics: Rarely seen; hide under shallow reefs to protect themselves from predators. When frightened, strained or attacked by predators these fish extend their sharp blade like spines on their tail outwards



Mono (*Monodactylus argenteus*)

Other Names: Silver Moony, Silver Moonfish, Silver Batfish, Diamond Moonfish, Diamondfish, Fingerfish, Kitefish

Location: Western Pacific and Indian Oceans, including the Persian Gulf, Red Sea, and associated estuaries, such as the Mekong Delta

Length: Grows to 10 inches

Food: Plankton, detritus (decomposition products)

Characteristics: Live in schools, peaceful. Survive in a wide range of salinities (open ocean, brackish waters, and freshwater rivers).



Longfin Bannerfish (*Heniochus acuminatus*)

Other Names: Black and White Butterflyfish, Poor Man's Moorish Idol, Bannerfish, Pennant Coralfish, Wimple fish

Location: Reefs of the Indo-Pacific, North and South Japan, Micronesia

Length: Grows to 10 inches

Food: Omnivores, feed on plankton and occasionally invertebrates

Characteristics: Young specimens have been known to act as cleaner fish, eating parasites off of other fish.



Fox Face Rabbitfish (*Siganus vulpinus*)

Other Names: Foxface Lo

Location: Reefs and lagoons in the tropical Western Pacific

Length: 6-15 inches

Food: Herbivores, eat algae, seaweed

Characteristics: Venomous dorsal and anal fins can cause painful sting; change color when frightened or sleeping



Niger Triggerfish (*Odonus niger*)
Other Names: Blue Triggerfish, Redtooth Triggerfish
Location: Indo-Pacific, South Africa, Red Sea, Great Barrier Reef Australia, New Caledonia
Length: Up to 18 inches
Food: Omnivores, eat just about anything
Characteristics: Nest builders, male guards eggs until they hatch



Panther Grouper (*Cromileptes Altivelis*)
Other Names: Polka Dot Grouper, Barramundi Cod, Humpback Grouper, High-Finned Grouper
Location: Reefs of the Indo-Pacific
Length: Up to 27 inches
Food: Carnivores, diet includes crustaceans, squid, other fish
Characteristics: Predatory and will eat just about anything meaty; also are food fish for humans



Desjardini Sailfin Tang (*Zebrasoma desjardini*)
Other names: Sailfin Tang
Location: Indian Ocean
Length: Up to 15 inches
Food: Herbivore and feeds on marine algae
Characteristics: A round-shaped body comprised of a very large tail fin, a high dorsal fin, and a long pointed mouth. The body is covered with wide light yellow lines and alternating with dark yellow stripes.



Sohal Tang (*Acanthurus sohal*)
Other names: Sohal Surgeounfish, Red Sea Clown Tang
Location: Red Sea
Length: Up to 16 inches
Food: Herbivore
Characteristics: Flanks and head exhibit narrow and horizontal, stripes, which are wavy around the head.



Unicorn Tang (*Naso Unicornis*)
Other names: Bluespine Unicornfish
Location: Hawaii, Indo-Pacific and Red Sea
Length: Up to 24 inches
Food: Primarily eats nori (marine algae)
Characteristics: White, gray or light green-blue body with a signature unicorn like horn projecting from the head.



Purple Tang (*Zebrasoma xanthurum*)

Other names: Yellowtail Tang, Yellowtail Surgeonfish

Location: Persian Gulf, Maldives, Red Sea and West Indian Ocean

Length: 8 to 10 inches

Food: Herbivore

Characteristics: Purple in color with a yellow tail. The head is covered with black spots and black horizontal lines run down the sides of the body.



Vlamingii Tang (*Naso vlamingii*)

Other names: Bignose Unicornfish, Vlaming's Tang, Vlaming's Unicornfish, Zebra Unicornfish

Location: Indo-Pacific, Marquesans, and Tuamotu Islands and the southern Great Barrier Reef.

Length: Up to 23.6 inches

Food: Omnivore, diet includes zooplankton and algae

Characteristics: Grayish-brown color overall with vertical blue lines on the sides and small blue spots along the upper half of the body and down close to the belly. The head, sometimes more of an olive color, has a blue trimmed mouth.



Porcupine Puffer Fish (*Diodon hystrix*)

Other names: Balloon Porcupine Fish, Spiny Puffer

Location: Eastern Atlantic, Western Atlantic, Red Sea, and South Africa

Length: Up to 12 inches

Food: Crustaceans

Characteristics: Ability to inflate with water when threatened.



Powder Blue Tang (*Acanthurus leucosternon*)

Other names: Powder Blue Surgeonfish

Location: Bali, Indian Ocean, and Indonesia

Length: 7 – 9 inches

Food: Herbivore

Characteristics: An oval body shape with markings. It has several varying shades of blue accented by yellow and white.



Silver Tipped Shark (*Ariopsis seemanni*)

Other names: Colombian Shark Catfish, Tete Sea Catfish, White Tip Shark Catfish

Location: Central America, Guatemala, South America and Southern Mexico

Length: 10 – 20 inches

Food: Considered to be omnivorous but prefers meaty foods.

Characteristics: They have a venom-producing gland on the first dorsal spine.



Palani Tang (*Acanthurus dussumierii*)

Other names: Eyestripe surgeonfish

Location: Bay and outer reef areas

Length: Up to 18 inches

Food: Algae and decaying plant material

Characteristics: Yellowish brown with black spots, bright blue tail fin and fine blue lines on body fading towards belly.

Cerritos Library Aquarium - Former Fish Residents



Bat Ray (*Myliobatis californica*)

Location: Eastern Pacific from Oregon to the Sea of Cortez and near the Galapagos Islands
Wingspan: Female- 1.8 m (6 ft) males are smaller
Food: Molluscs, crustaceans, small fishes
Characteristics: Found in muddy and sandy bottom bays, kelp forests and close to coral reefs. Generally docile, bat rays use the one to three venomous barbed spines at the base of their long tails for defense. Strong teeth are replaced continuously
 Rays are known for their ability to jump out of the water and skim along the surface.



Pufferfish

Other Names: Balloonfish, Blowfish, Bubblefish, Toadfish
Location: Western Pacific and Indian Oceans, including the Persian Gulf, Red Sea, and associated estuaries, such as the Mekong Delta
Length: Grows to 10 inches
Food: Plankton, detritus (decomposition products)
Characteristic: Slow swimming, agile; When feeling threatened, a pufferfish will fill its elastic stomach with water until it expands to a large, almost globe-like shape. Predatory; have four large teeth to crush their foods. Certain body parts of the fish are highly toxic to most other animals, including humans. You should not touch a pufferfish.



Birdnose Wrasse (*Gomphosus varius*)

Other Names: Bird Wrasse, Clubnosed Wrasse
Location: East Indian Ocean, Australia, Indonesia, Central/West Pacific
Length: Up to 12 inches
Food: Carnivores, diet includes various invertebrates, small fish
Characteristics: Hermaphroditic; all wrasses are born female, with some changing to male at later time. Females (Black Bird Wrasse, Brown Bird Wrasse) are white with spots; males (Green Bird Wrasse) are green and larger than females.



Grey Smooth-hound Shark (*Mustelus californicus*)

Location: coastal waters of the eastern Pacific Ocean
Length: Up to 2-3 feet
Food: Shrimp, worms, small fish
Characteristics: Found in waters over the continental shelves; often among schools of leopard sharks. Reproduce viviparously, producing live young called pups.