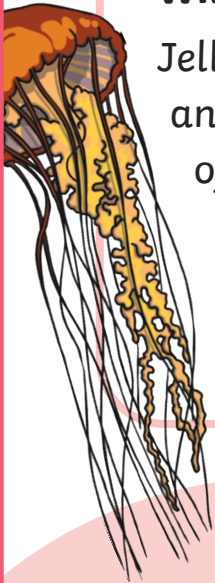


Jellyfish



Jellyfish are not really fish, they are a type of invertebrate, which means they don't have a backbone. They have been on earth for millions of years, even before the dinosaurs!

What Do Jellyfish Look Like?

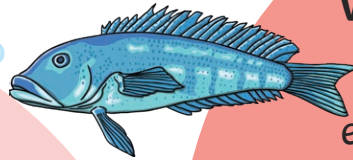


Jellyfish have a smooth dome-shaped body (known as a bell) and long, stinging tentacles. Their mouth is found in the centre of their body. Jellyfish have no brain, heart, bones or eyes.

They are see-through because they are mostly made up of water. Jellyfish are often clear but can also be pink, yellow, blue and purple.

Where Do Jellyfish Live?

Jellyfish are found in salt water all over the world. They can survive in warm and cold waters. They mainly live in shallow waters near the coast although some have been found deep in the ocean.



What Do Jellyfish Eat?

Jellyfish eat fish, fish eggs, shrimp, crabs and tiny plants. They use their tentacles to sting and capture their prey before eating it. Once they have eaten, they quickly get rid of the waste through their mouths. This helps them to stay afloat.



Jellyfish

How Do Jellyfish Move?

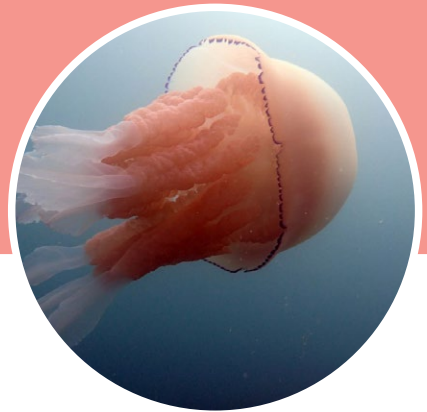
Jellyfish travel on ocean currents and move themselves through the water using propulsion. They squeeze and relax the muscles in their body. This pulls water in and then forces it out, pushing the jellyfish forward.



Are There Jellyfish in the UK?

There are six types of jellyfish found in UK waters. Moon jellyfish are the most common and often wash up on beaches.

Barrel jellyfish are the largest. They have a mushroom-shaped bell and eight frilly tentacles.



"Barrel Jellyfish (Rhizostoma pulmo)" by heartypanther is marked with CC-PDM 1.0

Did You Know...?

Baby jellyfish grow from tiny polyps. When they grow into adults, it is called the medusa stage. Most jellyfish live for less than one year.



Did You Know...?

Some jellyfish can produce their own light.



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