

# SCIENTIFIC KEYS: FISH ADAPTATIONS

## HOW TO USE?


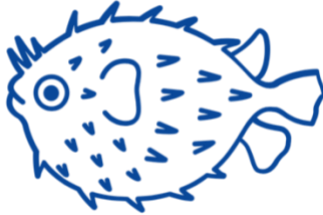
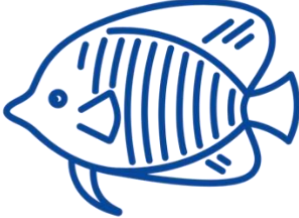
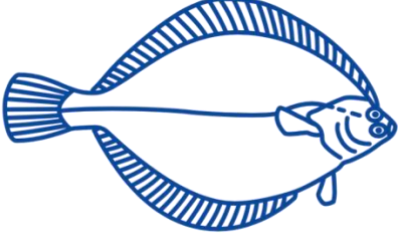

See teacher outline 2.3 for activities and slide set 2.3 for further context

NOTE: These keys have been adapted from an activity by [Monterey Bay Aquarium](https://www.montereybayaquarium.org/)



# SCIENTIFIC KEY 1: FISH BODY SHAPES

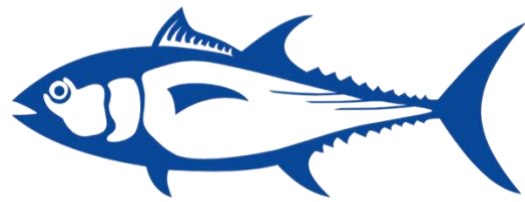
## (CLUES TO WHERE & HOW A FISH LIVES)

<p><b>Torpedo shape</b> (Open water)</p>	
<p><b>Boxy shape</b> (Among coral and rocks)</p>	
<p><b>Round &amp; narrow</b> (Tight places)</p>	
<p><b>Flat</b> (Sandy bottom)</p>	
<p><b>Elongated</b> (Around and under rocks)</p>	

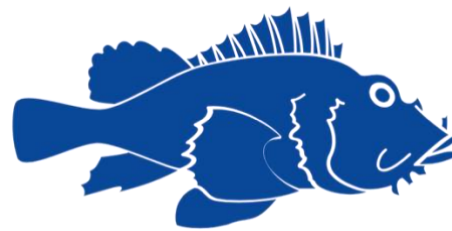


## SCIENTIFIC KEY 2: FISH EYE SHAPES (CLUES TO WHERE A FISH SPENDS TIME)

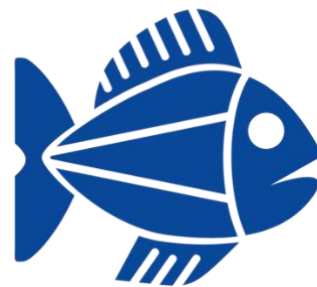
**One eye on each side**  
(Usually swims above the sea floor)



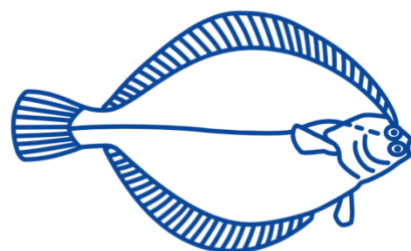
**Both eyes on top of head**  
(Sits on or near the seafloor)



**Large eyes**  
(Light gathering / spends time in dark places)



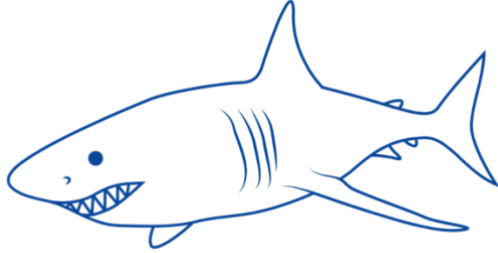
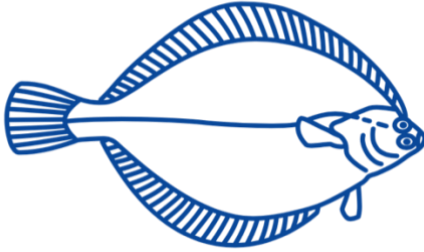
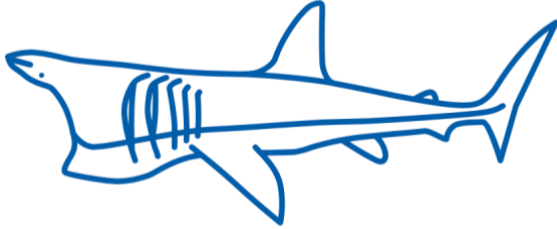
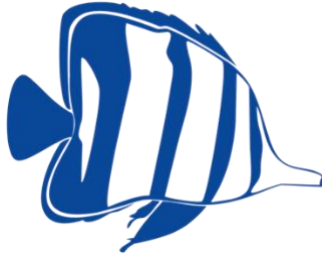
**Both eyes on one side of head**  
(Usually stays on the sea floor)





# SCIENTIFIC KEY 3: FISH MOUTH SHAPES


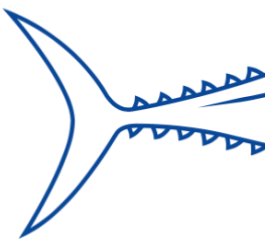
## (CLUES TO HOW & WHERE IT EATS)

<p><b>Mouth with teeth</b> (Bites &amp; catches prey)</p>	
<p><b>Mouth on underside</b> (Bottom feeder)</p>	
<p><b>Big wide mouth</b> (Gulps its food)</p>	
<p><b>Long skinny mouth</b> (Probes into cracks)</p>	





# SCIENTIFIC KEY 4: FISH CAUDAL OR TAIL FINS (CLUES TO SWIMMING SPEED)

<p><b>Squared / truncated tail fin</b> (Moderate speed; sprint starts)</p>	
<p><b>Forked tail fin</b> (Very fast speed, often open water habitat)</p>	
<p><b>Pointed tail fin</b> (Fast speed)</p>	