

Sea Creatures That Lived in Suruga Bay

Suruga Bay is a bay in Shizuoka Prefecture, Japan. It is the deepest bay in Japan. This is caused by the tectonic subduction of the Philippine Sea Plate and the Eurasian Plate at the Suruga Trough. Thanks to Mother Nature, Suruga Bay is rich with natural resources and about 1,000 types of fish can be found. Here, we are going to introduce about 200 types of fish from the wonderful Suruga Bay.

To protect themselves from predators, some fish will secrete poison through their skin or mouth. These lethal poisons may cause a person to faint, or maybe lead to death. Depending on the species, they spread poison when they are stressed and this may cause other fish in the tank die. Some other fish like pufferfish store poison in their liver. That is why we need to avoid eating pufferfish without a professional chef.

In this picture, we can see a lion fish (upper left), a filefish (upper right), a pufferfish (lower left), and a two-spotted red snapper (lower right). They may look scary, and they are toxic!



This section of the Marine Science Museum English floor plan was made by Tatsuya H., Daichi A., Yusuke T., Chia Yong O.



← Cherry bass is a kind of fish that changes its body shape, color, and even its gender as they age. Cherry bass are all born female. When they mature, their uterus will degenerate and a new testicle will develop. We can tell the difference between a male and a female cherry bass through the black spot its dorsal fin. The one with it is female and the opposite one is male.

→ Sardines usually swim in a school. Their swimming direction is led by the first sardine that is swimming in the front. Sardines are swimming with their mouth open. This is because they are eating tiny food particles in the tank while they are swimming. The reason that they swim in a circle is they will hit the wall if they do not swim round and round nonstop!



← A pinecone fish or a pineapple fish gets its name due to its body shape and color. It is covered by hard scales on its body. There is a luminous organ on its lower jaw. In fact, there are some luminescent bacteria living in there and causing the pinecone fish's lower jaw to be luminous. This is used to lure prey such as shrimp in the night. There is a rumor that the pinecone fish tastes delicious.



↑ Besides these fish, there are also other interesting fish living in Suruga Bay. Fish that can grow very big, for example grouper; a kind of gorgeous tropical fish, butterfly fish; live shark sucker, a fish that lives under a shark's belly, etc. Because these various fish exist, our sea looks beautiful. We hope you enjoyed!

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