

Facts about sea animals (about the jellyfish)

1. Do you know the characteristics of jellyfish?

Jellyfish belong to the phylum **Cnidaria**. Jellyfish have a bell-shaped body. They lack organs such as the heart, brain, and backbone. Their body is mostly made up of water; about 95 percent of their body consists of water. They exist in a variety of colors. They have long, flexible appendages (**tentacles**), which help them hunt, guard themselves from predators, and drift in the water. Some species have the ability to glow. They have nerve networks, which are helpful in sensing things such as light, chemicals, and movement. Nematocysts are specialized cells located in their tentacles that produce toxins that paralyze predators.

2. Which is the largest jellyfish?

Among all species, the Lion's Mane Jellyfish (**Cyanea capillata**) is one of the largest. Their body consists of about eight lobed bells that have 70–150 long, flexible appendages called tentacles. Their bell diameter varies from 50 cm to 2 meters. They are found in the **Arctic's cold waters**, the North **Atlantic**, and the North Pacific Ocean. Their sting is very powerful. Their tentacles' size varies from 30 m to 36.5 m. They are usually found in the **English Channel**, **Irish Sea**, **North Sea**, and the Scandinavian waters of Kattegat and Oresund. Some species are also found in the **Baltic Sea**, the coast of Massachusetts, and seas near Australia and New Zealand.

3. What is a group of jellyfish called?

A group of jellyfish is known by the terms "smack," "bloom," or "swarm."

4. Do you know about the habitat of jellyfish?

There are thousands of species of jellyfish that exist in all kinds of oceans and can survive in different conditions. They are found in cold as well as in warm waters. They are also able to survive in changing water conditions such as acidification, heat waves, and low-oxygen environments.

5. Which is the smallest jellyfish?

Among all species, the **Irukandji jellyfish** is one of the smallest. Their bell size varies from 5 millimeters to 25 millimeters. They are one of the most venomous species. They are found on the northern and eastern coasts of Australia. Their tentacles' sizes range from a few centimeters to 1 meter.

References

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