

VOCABULARY

Anatomy- the separation of the parts of the organism in order to ascertain their position, relations, structure and function.

Anal fin- the rear bottom fin of a fish that helps give balance

Caudal fin- the tail fin of the fish that gives the fish thrust for moving forward and aids in steering the fish.

Dorsal fin- the fin on the back of the fish which helps keeps the fish on a steady course.

Gills- an organ that allows the fish to exchange gases in the water such as oxygen and carbon dioxide, allows a fish to "breathe"

Lateral line- a row of sensory tubules along the side of a fish that allows it to sense pressure changes in the surrounding water.

Morphology- the study of the form and overall shape and how it relates to fish function.

Nare- the fish's nostril, a sensory organ that allows a fish to smell.

Operculum- the bony protective gill cover of a fish

Pectoral fin- a pair of fins located on each side of the fish that allows the fish swim backwards, stay in one spot, and move up and down or side to side. Helps steer the fish.

Pelvic fin- the forward bottom pair of fins that help stop a fish and helps fish swim backwards, stay in one place or move up and down in the water.

Scales- the skin of a fish made of bone and are shaped like shingles on a roof and help protect the fish.