



Rick: Some people think seahorses are tiny horses that can swim. Would you care to comment?

Denise's pygmy seahorse



Sherman:

As you know, Rick, we seahorses are **fish**. We live in warm, shallow waters. We like to hang out in grasses, seaweed, coral, or sponges.

Jayakar's seahorse



Rick: You sure don't look like fish.



Sherman: We are the oddballs of the fish world. We aren't shaped like most fish, and we don't have **scales**. Under our skin, we're covered in hard, bony plates. It's like we're wearing armor. It keeps us safe from our **enemies**.



short-snouted seahorse



longsnout seahorse



Rick: Are seahorses good swimmers?



Sherman: We are good swimmers. We swim by fluttering a tiny **fin** on our backs. We steer by using the fins on the sides of our heads. But we move slowly. It can take us more than a minute to move just 12 inches! We live life in the *slow lane*.



dwarf seahorse



Rick: How big do seahorses get?



weedy pygmy seahorse



Sherman: We come in different sizes. Some get as big as a hammer while others are as small as a staple!



Rick: So, Sherman, what do seahorses do all day?



Japanese pygmy seahorse



Sherman: We mostly just hang out. That's where our talented tails come in. We curl them around things and hold on tight.