

You would never win a staring contest against any of these fish. Why? Because they never blink! Unlike you, these fish have no eyelids. Their eyes are always open.



porcupinefish



frogfish

Fish eyes differ from yours in other ways, too. For example, when you open your eyes underwater, everything looks a little blurry. But fish can see perfectly underwater—as clearly as you could see with goggles on.

Fish eyes are full of surprises. Some fish have eyes in funny places. Others have eyes that are “invisible.” There are fish with fake eyes and even fish with no eyes at all!

Keep reading to learn more about these and other fish. You won't believe their eyes!




beaked coralfish



# EYES IN STRANGE PLACES

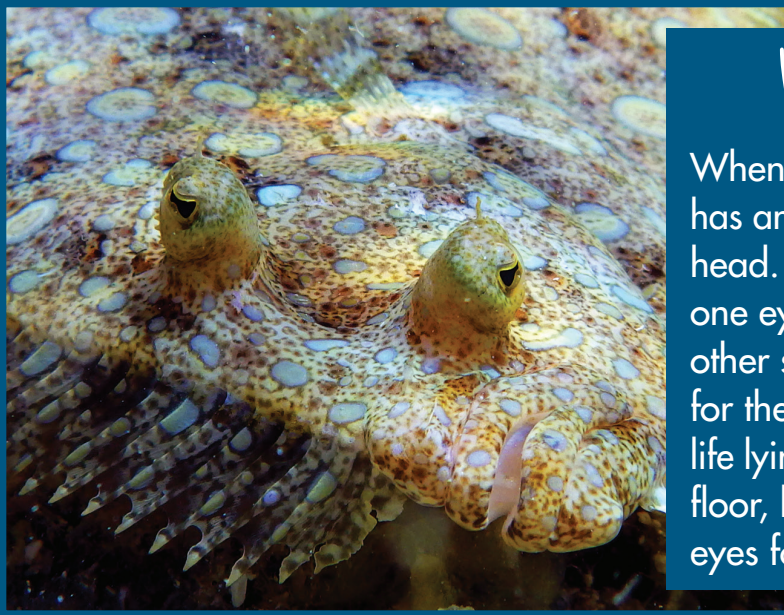
## Scenic View

For a long time, the strangely shaped head of the *hammerhead shark* had been a mystery. But scientists have figured out some reasons for the hammer-shaped head, and one is that it gives the shark excellent vision. With its eyes out on the ends of the hammer, the shark can see all the way around itself—a great way to watch for prey or danger.



YOU WOULD  
HAVE A HARD TIME  
SNEAKING UP ON  
THIS SHARK!





## Wandering Eye

When a *flounder* hatches, it has an eye on each side of its head. But as the fish grows, one eye slowly moves to the other side! That works great for the flounder. It spends its life lying on its side on the sea floor, looking up with both eyes for something to eat.

## An Eye for Urchins

One of a *triggerfish's* favorite meals is a sea urchin. But eating an urchin can be a prickly problem—most fish could get poked in the eye by one of the urchin's long spines. Luckily, the eyes of a triggerfish are set farther back on the head than the eyes of most other fish. So the triggerfish can feast while its eyes stay safely out of reach.

