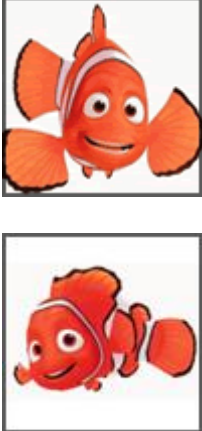







Finding Nemo - Species Identification and information

Sources:

- www.eoearth.org
- www.ozanimals.com
- www.britannica.com
- <http://marinebio.org>

Character pic	Character - Species	
	<p>Marlin, Nemo & Coral</p> <p>Clownfish, Clown Anemonefish : <i>Amphiprion percula</i>. The bright orange and three distinctive white bars make this fish very recognizable on the coral reef. They reach 11 centimeters in length. This fish is also known as an anemonefish because of its close relationship with anemones. The clownfish is able to live safely among the stinging tentacles of sea anemones by coating itself with a protective mucous (slimy) coating similar to that of anemones. This allows the clownfish and the sea anemone to enjoy a mutually beneficial arrangement: the clownfish gives scraps of food to the sea anemone, and the sea anemone protects the clownfish from predators with its mass of stinging tentacles.</p>	
	<p>Dory</p> <p>Blue Tang, Regal Tang, Blue Surgeonfish: <i>Paracanthurus hepatus</i>. The blue tang is a surgeonfish (family Acanthuridae) that begins life a pale yellow and gradually turns blue as it gets older. The mature fish is easily recognized by its blue body and black markings. Blue tangs feed on zooplankton and have venomous fin spines to protect themselves. The Blue Tang lives throughout the Indo-West Pacific. In Australia it can be found on nearly the entire length of the Great Barrier Reef, Queensland. Blue Tangs can be territorial and will defend their homeland, they also can travel in schools interacting as schooling fish, and they can be wanderers being chased by other fish.</p>	
	<p>Gill</p> <p>Moorish Idol : <i>Zanclus cornutus</i>. The Moorish Idol has a very long, white, sickle-shaped dorsal fin, two broad black bars on the body, and a yellow saddle across the snout. It uses its long snout to feed on coralline algae and sponges in cracks and crevices. The Moorish Idol grows to 24cm in length. It is sometimes seen as a single individual, but often forms pairs and occasionally larger schools. This species has a widespread Indo-Pacific distribution in tropical and some temperate waters.</p>	



Bloat

Pufferfish or Blowfish possibly Fine-spotted Porcupinefish *Diodon holocanthus*

The scientific name refers to the four large teeth, fused into an upper and lower plate, which are used for crushing the shells of crustaceans and mollusks, their natural prey. Pufferfish are generally believed to be the second most poisonous vertebrates in the world, after the golden poison frog. Certain internal organs, such as liver, and sometimes the skin, are highly toxic to most animals when eaten; nevertheless, the meat of some species is considered a delicacy in Japan, Korea, and China when prepared by chefs who know which part is safe to eat and in what quantity.



Peach

Starfish, possibly Pink star : *Pisaster brevenspinus*

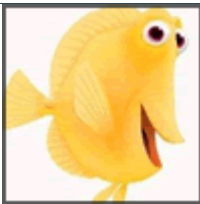
This starfish is a member of the Asteroidea class and found generally intertidally in tropical areas..



Gurgle

possibly Bicolor Blenny
Ecsenius bicolor

The Bicolor Blenny lives in crevices on coral reefs. Blennies are totally reef safe- in fact a reef environment is really best for them because they can be shy and the intricate rockwork of a reef provides ample hiding spaces. They are omnivores and should be fed a varied diet of frozen or live foods and plant matter. Blennies do not have teeth or functional jaw, so food must be small enough for them to swallow whole.



Bubbles

Yellow Tang - *Zebrasoma flavescens* : Varing in size from 1/4" to 8", bright yellow fins and body are the trademarks of the yellow tang. Small, tightly packed scales on the body give the fish a velvety appearance. The sharp spines near the tail are used for defense and as an anchor in the rocks when sleeping.





Deb/Flo

I think Flo is an Indigo Hamlet . A **hamlet** is a fish of the genus *Hypoplectrus* that is found mainly in coral reefs in the Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico, particularly around Florida and the Bahamas. They are a popular choice for hobbyist saltwater aquariums, and come in a variety of colors.



Jacques

Cleaner Shrimp possibly *Lyasmata amboinensis* . Also known as: Cleaner Red Skunk Shrimp or Indo-Pacific White-Banded Cleaner Shrimp. The cleaner shrimp has an interesting symbiotic relationship with fish; when they have parasites on their skin, they come to the cleaner shrimp, who patiently picks them off, along with dead skin. They are harmless little guys and great to watch. If you get a few, they will be less shy and set up their own station on the live rock so that fish know where to find them.



Nigel

Brown Pelican. Length: 41 inches Wingspan: 90 inches. Huge, dark bird. Long bill with a pouch, dark on Atlantic/Gulf coasts; bill paler along Pacific coast, becomes yellow during breeding season. Flies with neck tucked. Plunges from great heights into water to catch fish



Crush & Squirt

Green Turtle. *Chelonia mydas*. Adult green turtles may reach a size of 1 m long and 180 kg mass. The carapace is smooth and is colored gray, green, brown and black. The plastron is yellowish white. Hatchlings weigh about 25 g, and are about 50 mm long. Hatchlings are black on top and white on the bottom. Age at sexual maturity is estimated at 20-50 years. Green turtles are found throughout the North Pacific, ranging as far north as Eliza Harbor, Admiralty Island, Alaska, and Ucluelet, British Columbia. In the eastern North Pacific, green turtles have been sighted from Baja California to southern Alaska. In the central Pacific, green turtles can be found at most tropical islands. In U.S. Hawaiian waters, green turtles are found around most of the islands in the Hawaiian Archipelago. The primary nesting site is at French Frigate Shoals.





Sheldon

Seahorse.

Seahorses have elongated bodies encased in bony rings. They live in coral reefs and sea grass beds; some live in freshwater. They like to be in sheltered areas where they can be well camouflaged. Seahorses are found all over the world. They swim upright with their tails down and their heads up. Seahorses eat small crustaceans, using a sit-and-wait strategy: basically they sit still and wait to snap at prey that comes near. With its tube-like mouth, the seahorse creates a vacuum that draws prey into its mouth. Seahorses can quickly change colors to blend in with their surroundings. Seahorses have lengthy courtships and are loyal to one partner.



They can also change color while mating. The male seahorse carries the eggs in a brood pouch, where they are fertilized and incubated until they hatch.



Mr. Ray

The **spotted eagle ray** (*Aetobatus narinari*) is a cartilaginous fish of the eagle ray family, Myliobatidae. It can be found globally in tropical regions, including the Gulf of Mexico, Hawaii, off the coast of West Africa, the Indian Ocean, Oceania, and on both coasts of the Americas at depths down to about 80 meters (262 ft). Rays are ovoviviparous, the female retaining the eggs then releasing the young as miniature versions of the parent. This ray can be identified by its dark dorsal surface covered in white spots or rings. Near the base of the ray's relatively long tail, just behind the pelvic fins, are several venomous, barbed stingers.



Bruce - great white shark

The **great white shark**, *Carcharodon carcharias*, also known as the **great white**, **white pointer**, **white shark**, or **white death**, is a species of large lamniform shark which can be found in the coastal surface waters of all the major oceans. The great white shark is mainly known for its size, with the largest individuals known to have approached or exceeded 6 m (20 ft) in length, and 2,268 kg (5,000 lb) in weight. This shark reaches its maturity around 15 years of age and can have a life span of over 30 years.



The great white shark is arguably the world's largest known extant macropredatory fish, and is one of the primary predators of marine mammals. It is also known to prey upon a variety of other marine animals, including fish and seabirds.

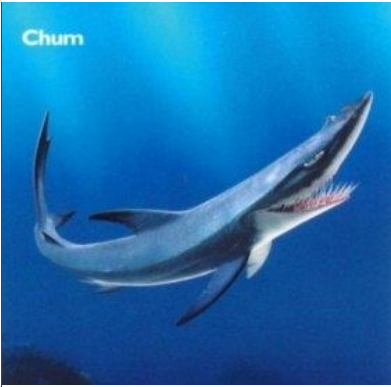


Anchor - hammerhead shark

Hammerheads are found worldwide in warmer waters along coastlines and continental shelves. Unlike most sharks, hammerheads usually swim in schools during the day, becoming solitary hunters at night. Some of these schools can be found near Malpelo Island in Colombia, Cocos Island off Costa Rica, and near Molokai Island in Hawaii. Large schools are also seen in southern and eastern Africa. The nine known species range from 0.9 to 6 m (3.0 to 20 ft) long and



weigh from 3 to 580 kg (6.6 to 1,300 lb) Although several hammerhead species are quite large, these are more slender and streamlined compared to other large sharks, which undoubtedly increase their speed and maneuverability in the water.



Chum - mako shark A type of mackerel shark. The shortfin mako feeds mainly upon cephalopods, bony fishes including mackerels, tunas, bonitos, and swordfish, but it may also eat other sharks, porpoises, sea turtles, and seabirds. They hunt by lunging vertically up and tearing off chunks of their preys' flanks and fins. Makos swim below their prey, so they can see what is above and have a high probability of reaching prey before it notices. Biting the caudal peduncle (near the tail) can immobilize the prey.

