





Recommended
for grades 6-8

OPEN WIDE

Observe different fish in the Aquarium to find examples of the following mouth types.
Then fill out the worksheet on the back.

Mouth Types	General Mouth Information
	Superior - Mouth opening pointed upward <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Surface oriented fish - Feed on objects on the surface of the water - Fish typically have a flattened back
	Terminal - Mouth opening is at the extreme anterior (front) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Feed on what is directly in front or in mid-water - Often predators - Most common mouth shape
	Subterminal - Mouth opening is mostly ventral <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tend to feed off of the bottom - Many have barbells (whiskers used to feel) - Typically scavengers or herbivores
	Inferior - Mouth used to suck food off of the bottom <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mostly scavengers - Many have barbels (whiskers used to feel) - Typically have a flattened bellies

Here are a few things to keep in mind as you walk through the Aquarium.

Herbivores – animals that eat plants

Carnivores – animals that eat other animals

Omnivores – animals that eat both plants and animals

Piscivores – fish that mostly eat other fish

Ocean Zonation

Benthic – ocean bottom

Pelagic – water column

Neritic – part of the pelagic zone that extends from the high tide line to an ocean bottom less than 600ft. deep

Oceanic – water deeper than 600ft. (divided into three sections based on water depth epipelagic, mesopelagic, and bathypelagic)

Euphotic – enough light to support photosynthesis

Disphotic – very small amounts of light penetrate

Aphotic – entirely devoid of light (90% of ocean space)

