

Seahorse

Hippocampus sp.

All seahorses are part of the genus Hippocampus, a combination of the Greek words for "horse" and "sea monster." They have upright posture and a prehensile tail they use to anchor themselves as they are generally poor swimmers. Unlike other bony fishes, they do not have scales but rather thin skin stretched over a series of bony plates. The male seahorse has a pouch on his front in which the female seahorse will deposit up to 1,500 eggs! The male will then carry the eggs until they hatch, which can be up to 45 days. Seahorses are found all over the world in shallow tropical and temperate salt waters, generally hiding in sheltered areas like coral reefs, sea grass beds and mangroves.



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