Jellyfish facts





Lifespan (in wild): One year

Weight: Up to 2kg Body size: 2cm to 2m Top speed: 8km/h

Diet: Fish, shrimp, crabs, tiny plants and even other species of jellyfish

Some jellyfish are clear, but others are vibrant colours of pink, yellow, blue and purple. They can be *bioluminescent*, too, which means they produce their own light!

Jellyfish have no brain, heart, bones or eyes. They are made up of a smooth, bag-like body and stinging tentacles which they use to stun prey. They then use them to sweep the food towards their mouths before gobbling it up.

The jellyfish's mouth is found in the centre of its body. From this small opening it both eats and gets rid of waste. Also, to help it propel forward, it squirts a jet of water from its mouth.

Did you know Jellyfish are eaten by sea turtles? In some cultures around the world, people eat jellyfish, too. In China, they are considered a delicacy, and are also used in Chinese medicine.

Jellyfish stings can be painful to humans but they don't do it on purpose. Most stings happen when people accidentally touch a jellyfish. If someone is stung by a jellyfish you should pour vinegar over the wound as soon as possible, and seek medical assistance. A very few jellyfish have a deadly sting such as the sea wasp which is a type of box jellyfish.