

# Different Types of Jellyfish

Jellyfish are made up of more than 95 percent water. They have no blood, bones, teeth, fins, skin, or brains (they do have a nerve net).



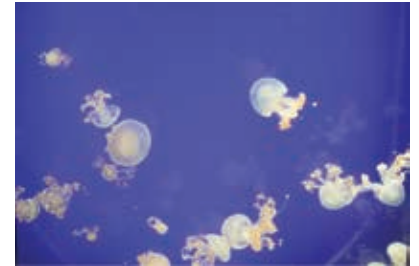
Lion's Mane Jellyfish



Fried Egg or Egg Yolk Jellyfish, *Phacellophora camtschatica*

They are not really fish at all. They are mostly large, gelatinous bodies with long tentacles. They cannot live out of the water. They do have mouths and sting their prey. Jellyfish are radially symmetrical, meaning they have no left or right sides but are instead the same all the way around. Jellyfish move by jet propulsion. They pulsate their bell bodies, pulling water into them, then squirting the water out behind them. This creates a jet of water that pushes them forward. Jellyfish also float on the water currents.

There are about 200 species of what is called True Jellyfish (or Medusa Jellyfish). True Jellyfish are species in the Phylum Cnidaria and Class Scyphozoa. Some kinds of True Jellyfish are Moon Jellies, Sea Nettles, and Lion's Mane Jellyfish. The Class Cubozoa (Box Jellyfish) are not True Jellyfish. There are about 20 species in this class. They have a more complex nerve net, more like our nervous system. They also have 24 eyes that can see all the way around them. Two of their eyes can even see in color, which is rare for animals. Box Jellyfish have very strong venom that can sometimes kill humans.

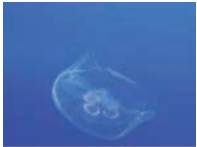


Tiny spotted jellyfish

The giant Nomura's jellyfish, *Nemopilema nomurai*, found in the oceans of Japan, Korea, and China, is thought to be the largest jellyfish. Average Nomura's reach 35 inches in bell diameter and about 330 pounds. The smallest jellyfish have bodies as small as 0.5 mm and short tentacles. They crawl on seaweed rather than swim. They cannot be seen without a microscope.



Pacific Sea Nettle, *Chrysaora fuscescens*



Moon Jellyfish, *Aurelia aurita*



Comb Jelly (not a true jellyfish)



Purple Stripped, *Chrysaora Colorata*



Mediterranean jellyfish

Jellyfish have no brains, but you do! Test it by seeing how much you remember about jellyfish!

1. What percentage of a jellyfish is made up of water?

95 percent

2. How do jellyfish move around?

jet propulsion and water currents

3. How many different species of jellyfish are there?

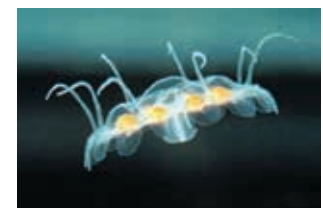
about 200

4. How many pounds is the average Nomura Jellyfish?

330 pounds



Portuguese Man-O-War (*Physalia physalis*)



Crown Jellyfish, *Nausithoe aurea* (photo on Wikipedia by Petroldarling)



Irukandji jellyfish