

# Animal Facts:

## Eels

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Eels are long, slimy fish that look like snakes.



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Baby eels  
are called  
elvers.



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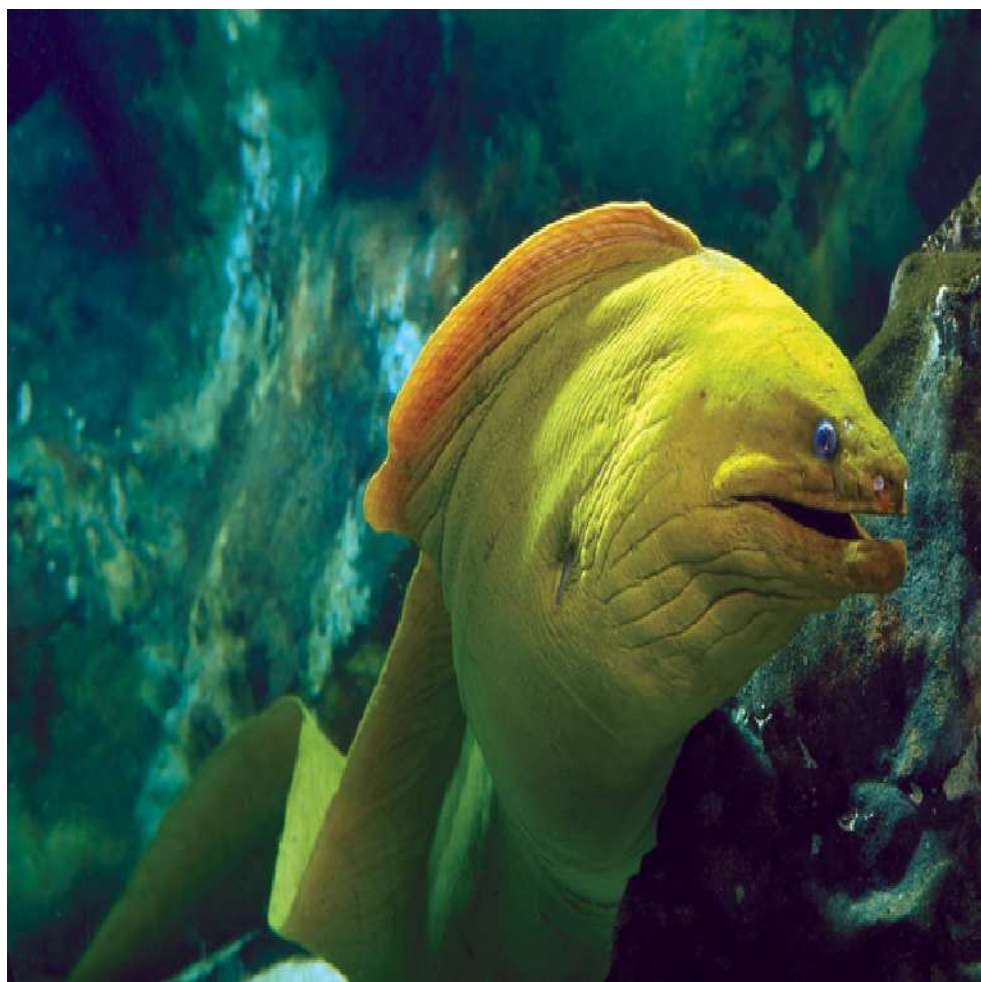
Some eels  
live in rivers,  
but most live  
in the sea,  
including  
moray eels  
and conger  
eels.



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Moray eels are huge and live in tropical waters, hunting fish, squid and cuttlefish.



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Gulper eels can live more than 7,500 m down in the Atlantic Ocean. Their mouths are huge to help them catch food in the dark. They are so big that they can swallow fish larger than themselves whole.



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Every autumn, some European common eels migrate over 7,000 km, from the Baltic Sea in Europe to the Sargasso Sea near the West Indies to lay their eggs.



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Migrating eels are thought to find their way partly by detecting weak electric currents created by the movement of the water.



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When European eels hatch in the Sargasso Sea they are carried northeast by the ocean current, developing as they go into tiny transparent eels called glass eels.



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The electric eels of South America can produce an electric shock of over 500 volts, enough to knock over an adult human.



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Garden eels live in colonies on the seabed, poking out from holes in the sand to catch food drifting by. Their colonies look like gardens of weird plants.

