

## HAWAIIAN ISLANDS HUMPBACK WHALE NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY



### Hawaiian Cleaner Wrasse (*Hinalea*)

#### **Fun Tail Facts:**

- The tail of a Hawaiian cleaner wrasse is made up of bony spines covered with skin.
- Wrasse fish tails move side to side to propel them forward through the water.
- The Hawaiian cleaner wrasse's tail is usually purple or violet in color with a black lateral line running through its center.

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FISHERIES

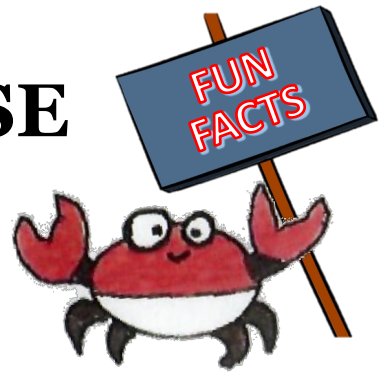


PAPAHĀNAUMOKUĀKEA  
Marine National Monument

# Table of Contents

- Fun Facts
- Draw the Habitat
- Coloring Pages
- Craft Projects
- Word Search
- Video Links:
  - HSPLS Tails and Tales with NOAA Video Playlist:  
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLwp9id7RKgdUumVhHALrcreguMYTfJPeQ>

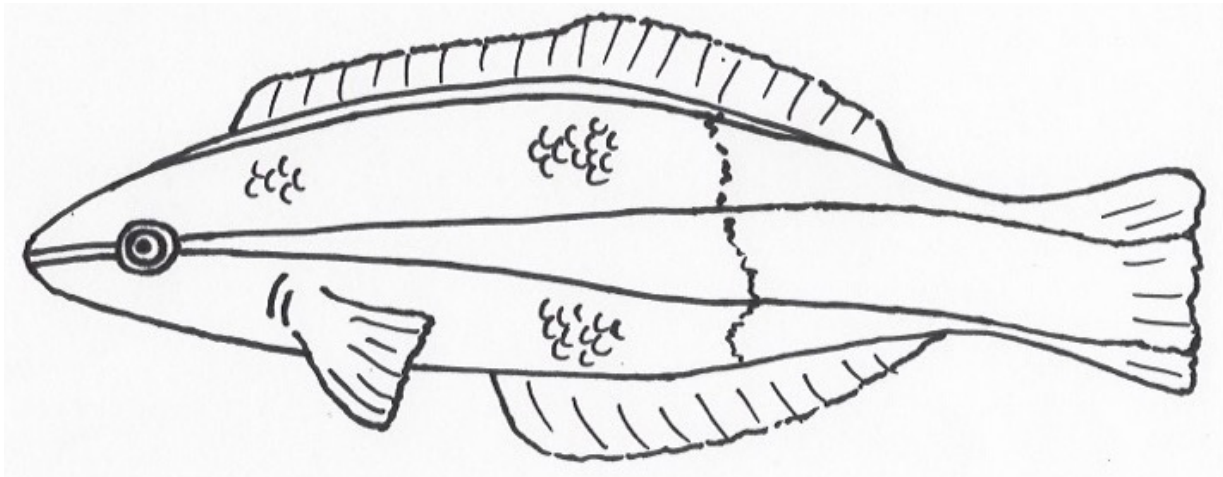
# HAWAIIAN CLEANER WRASSE



- A Hawaiian cleaner wrasse is endemic to Hawai'i, meaning they evolved here and are only found in the Hawaiian Islands.
- The common name of “cleaner wrasse” comes from their diet of mucus, parasites and dead skin that they eat off of other fish (and turtles, too)!
- Cleaner wrasses live in coral reefs and set up special locations, called Cleaning Stations, where the fish will wait in line to be cleaned.
- Hawaiian cleaner wrasses are often found in pairs.
- Cleaner wrasses dart around erratically to let their turtle and fish “customers” know that they are ready to get to work cleaning!
- While inactive, the Hawaiian cleaner wrasse surrounds itself with a cocoon of mucus on the sea floor.
- A Hawaiian cleaner wrasse can be found at a depth of 300 feet!
- Cleaner wrasses can go inside the mouth of fish to clean without getting eaten!
- Some fish being cleaned by the cleaner wrasse change color during the process.
- Young cleaner wrasses are black with a neon blue stripe down their side but as adults, they are mostly blue with a yellow head, a magenta colored tail, and a black stripe down the side.
- All Hawaiian cleaner wrasses are born female and some will change into males in adulthood.

# Where does a Hawaiian cleaner wrasse live?

Draw in and color its habitat below!





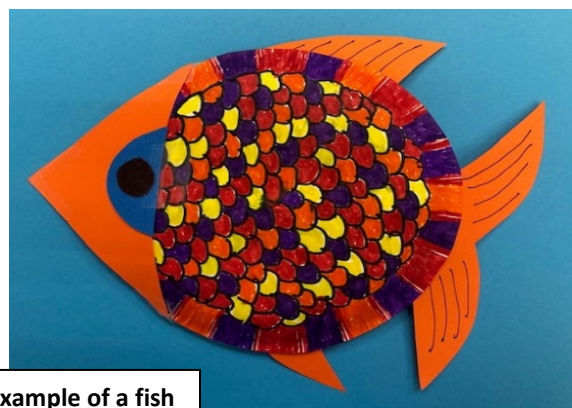
# CRAFT PROJECT

## Create a Fish

### If You Were a Fish in the Ocean, What Would You Be Like?

- Make a model of what you would look like.
- Where would you live?
- What would you eat and how would you catch it?
- How would you protect yourself?
- How do you move?

*Check out examples on the right.*

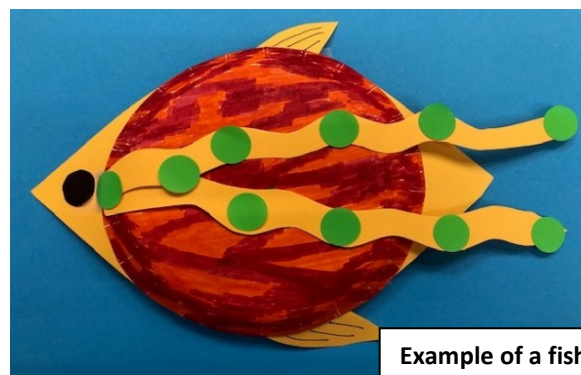


Example of a fish

**Dotted Viper Fish:** Colorful scales help to disguise it. The yellow scales shoot out poisonous barbs to keep predators away. It lives in the coral reef and sits quietly, ready to catch food that swims by.

### Materials

- Fish bodies in the examples are made from paper plates.
- Bodies can be made from plastic bottles, paper cups, paper plates, rolled up paper, toilet paper rolls or anything else you might find in your house.
- Fins can be again anything creative thing you might find, construction paper, cut up paper cups or plates, etc.
- Scissors
- Glue or tape
- Colored pens, crayons or paints
- Decorate with pipe cleaners, feathers, straws, chop sticks, etc.



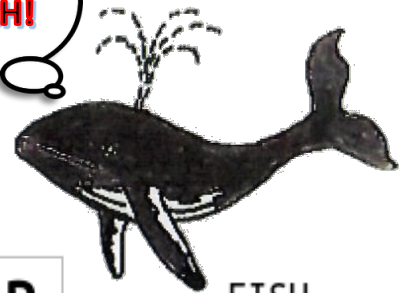
Example of a fish

**Spotted Whipping Tail Fish:** The green algae spots give off a smell that attracts other fish, who are then entangled in the yellow whipping tails, providing a tasty meal to the **Spotted Whipping Tail Fish**. It lives in rocky areas where the waves can be rough. The yellow whipping tails can hold onto the rocks.

# Cleaner Wrasse Word Search

Circle the words in the puzzle below!

**WORD  
SEARCH!**



A	R	F	E	S	S	E	T	I	S	A	R	A	P
T	S	U	A	A	K	N	S	W	S	A	A	R	C
A	S	H	A	R	K	I	A	L	E	C	L	S	S
C	T	I	T	A	N	L	N	K	N	W	T	C	S
L	K	O	L	L	R	A	E	L	T	R	U	T	W
E	T	C	O	F	H	G	N	I	N	A	E	L	C
A	A	H	R	N	O	I	T	A	T	S	A	S	C
N	A	R	O	O	T	L	O	U	H	S	W	C	S
E	H	S	I	F	N	A	L	N	L	E	T	F	M
R	I	I	A	H	M	R	E	H	E	O	F	R	A
E	O	A	A	C	C	A	M	U	C	U	S	A	L
C	O	R	A	L	R	E	E	F	F	I	P	I	L
H	A	W	A	I	I	A	N	O	N	L	R	C	I
O	C	E	A	N	C	O	L	O	R	F	U	L	R



FISH  
CLEANER  
SMALL  
CLEANING  
PARASITE  
CORAL REEF  
MUCUS  
SKIN  
OCEAN  
WRASSE  
COLORFUL  
HAWAIIAN  
SHARK  
STATION  
TURTLE



# SEA SQUIRTS

## REEF RIDDLES

Combine the pictures to find the names of some "fishy" friends from the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands!





a  +  = \_\_\_\_\_



b  +  = \_\_\_\_\_





c  +  +  = \_\_\_\_\_



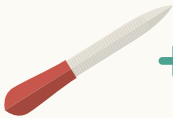

d  + **ED** +  +  = \_\_\_\_\_

e  +  = \_\_\_\_\_


f  +  = \_\_\_\_\_

g  +  = \_\_\_\_\_

h  +  +  +  = \_\_\_\_\_

i  +  +  +  = \_\_\_\_\_

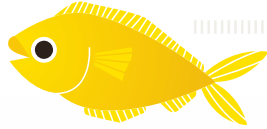
j  +  +  = \_\_\_\_\_

k  + **ED** +  +  = \_\_\_\_\_

a. spaghetti worm, b. rice coral, c. raccoon butterflyfish, d. banded coral shrimp, e. convict tang, f. dragon (moray) eel, g. tiger shark, h. yellowbar parrotfish, i. fantail filefish, j. fantail filefish, k. bearded armhead

# SEA SQUIRTS

## Something Fishy



What makes a fish a fish? Is a sea cucumber a fish? Is an eel a fish? Let's dive into the waters of Waikiki and find out!

Using the words below, fill in the blanks to find out what makes a fish a fish. You can use these words multiple times!

water

gills

fins

scales

backbone

cold-blooded



Yes! Eels and sharks are fish.



Fish live in \_\_\_\_\_, some in the ocean, others in lakes, rivers or streams. Mammals, like monk seals and humans, breathe air with their lungs to get the oxygen they need, but fish get oxygen by using their \_\_\_\_\_. Fish use their tail \_\_\_\_\_ to propel themselves through water. Most of their tail \_\_\_\_\_ for power, but some fish, like the **humuhumu** use their top and bottom \_\_\_\_\_ for power. Most fish have \_\_\_\_\_, which are woven together like a coat of armor for protection. Fish are vertebrates and have a \_\_\_\_\_. The \_\_\_\_\_ of sharks and rays are made of a flexible substance called cartilage. Fish are also \_\_\_\_\_, which means they are usually the same temperature of the \_\_\_\_\_ they live in. We humans have a healthy body temperature of 98.6 degrees even when we swim in the cool ocean or lay in the warm sun!

ANSWERS: 1. water; 2. gills; 3. fins; 4. fins; 5. fins; 6. scales; 7. backbone; 8. backbone; 9. cold-blooded; 10. water