ARTSmart: Fish

Compare and Contrast

Use the Venn Diagram that follows to list how these fish are different and the same.
Dorothy Pulis Lathrop
Born 1891, Albany, New York
Died 1981, Falls Village, Connecticut

Gold Fish, 1944-45
Wood engraving
Gift of the family of E. Herbert Deines, 1969.124a

Lathrop was a Caldecott-winning illustrator and printmaker whose specialty was animals. She was known to spend hours with her subjects. Her gold fish (Carassius auratus), drawn from a menagerie she and her sister kept, is shown in a well-decorated aquarium. Lathrop purchased the gold fish to be her model for the illustrations she created for a 1939 edition of The Little Mermaid.
Roger Bezombes
Born 1913, Paris, France
Died 1994, Paris, France
Poisson Verte, ca. 1972
Screenprint with plastic addition on paper
Gift of Gilbert E. Johnson, 2017.21

Bezombes also made the ragged fish in this print, built from a collage of colors, the subject of a bronze platter. This fish has a fake eyeball that mimics the googly eye of the creature moving under forms resembling sea foam in this print. The artist’s fish were seen all over France during the 1970s on posters for businesses like the French Railway and Air France.
Fish Facts

- Fish have been on the earth for more than 450 million years, whereas mammals have only been on earth for roughly 200 millions years. Fish were well established long before dinosaurs roamed the earth.

- There are over 27,000 identified species of fish on the earth and an estimated 15,000 fish species that have not yet been identified.

- There are more species of fish than all the species of amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals combined.

- Out of more than 360 species of Sharks, only a handful of species pose a potential threat to humans. Did you know? Elephants (~500) and deer (~100) kill more people every year than Sharks (~10)!

- In order to live, fish must extract oxygen from the water and transfer it to their bloodstream. This is done by gills, lungs, specialized chambers, or skin, any of which must be richly supplied with blood vessels in order to act as a respiratory organ.

Dunkleosteus was a gigantic, 33 foot long prehistoric fish.
Goldfish can live for decades. The oldest known Goldfish, "Goldie," died in 2005 at 45 years of age. The second oldest Goldfish was "Tish" who died at 43.

The largest fish in the world is the Whale Shark. The largest recorded Whale Shark was 41.5 feet long, was 23 feet around, and weighed more than 47,300 lbs.

Whale Sharks also lay the largest eggs of any animal. A Whale Shark egg measuring 14 inches long was found in the Gulf of Mexico in the 1950s.

It wasn’t until 1853 in London when aeration and filtration of water was understood, that people were able to keep fish as indoor pets. The first public aquarium was opened in London (1853), and by 1856 New York also had an aquarium.

The psychedelic mandarin dragonet is one of only two animal species known to have blue coloring because of cellular pigment.
Fish Anatomy

The swim bladder

Fish have a swim bladder, also known as an air bladder. This is an organ connected to the digestive system, which fills up with gas and helps fish to regulate their flotation when moving between two different types of water. They empty it to dive and fill it up when they need to come nearer the surface. Bottom-dwelling fish generally have a smaller swim bladder, or none at all, as they rarely swim in open water.
Learn more about fish
Additional Fish from the BMA collection

**Ellen Lanyon**

*Pisces*, 1987 - 2008  
Soft-ground etching with watercolor on paper  
KSU, Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, gift of the artist, Ellen Lanyon, 2009.87

The zodiac sign Pisces, features two fish

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**Delores Lewis Garcia**

*Plate*, 20th century  
Glazed earthenware  

**Emma Lewis**

*Jar*, 20th century  
Earthenware with pigment  
KSU, Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, gift of the Estate of Lolafaye Coyne, 2015.52
Martin Fan Cheng
*Untitled*, 1987
Lithograph on paper
KSU, Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, acquisition made possible with funds provided by the Friends of Art, 1987.15

Diane Balsley
*Tropiquarical*, 1982
Watercolor on paper
KSU, Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, 1986.10
Antoni Clavé
*Fish*, 1958
Lithograph on paper
KSU, Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, 2016.33

Harry Elno Krug
*Shallows*, ca. 1970
Color screenprint on illustration board
KSU, Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, gift of the artist, 2012.287
Orval F. Hempler
*Untitled*, 20th century
Glazed earthenware
KSU, Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, bequest of Orval F. Hempler Estate, 1994.21

Margo Kren
*Spring: Evolving Fishes*, 1998
Oil on plywood with silver and gold leaf and wooden frame with metal hinges
KSU, Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, gift of Margo Kren, 2016.139
Picture Books

Video/read along
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QFORvXhub28

Blog on the Rainbow Fish series with activities.
http://blog.playdrhutch.com/2014/03/31/therainbowfishseries/
**Art Projects**

**Fan Fish**
These fish are all variations of the folded paper fan. For the round fish, you will open the fan to both sides from the middle. The next two fish, you will fold the fan in half. The different is created by which end you make the mouth.
“It is said that children are the greatest national treasure a people can have, and a living example of this is apparent in the attitudes and demeanor of the Japanese toward their young. The Japanese youth is taught perseverance and determination. This is symbolized in a festival where paper fish are strung on poles and flutter in the breeze. The fish are Carp and represent the children within the family, with the eldest being uppermost on the pole.”

—John Doyle

In Japan, Koinobori kites were originally flown as part of the Tango no Sekku (Boys’ Day) festivities on May 5, while Hinamatsuri (Girls’ Day) featuring ceremonial dolls was celebrated on March 3. In 1948 the two holidays were merged into one holiday, Kodomo no Hi, or Children’s Day. The carp (koi) is a symbol of perseverance because in legends it swims upstream to become a powerful dragon.
Koinobari - Carp Streamers

Fold your paper in half and draw your fish shape. Glue only the top edge – leave the mouth and tail open so the wind will blow through. It helps to reinforce the mouth with a strip of tag board.

These can be ordered from https://www.unitednow.com/
Robert Gibbings
The Lost Anchor, 1936
Wood engraving on paper
KSU, Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, gift of the family of E. Hubert Deines, 1969.84a
Fish

- fold diagonally
- fold corners down
- fold flaps up
- fold flaps
- fold top layer
- fold the two top layers
- fold behind
- squash, bringing points together
- cut 2/3 of side
- outside reverse fold to form fin
- finished Fish

https://tavinsorigami.com/origami-fish-instructions/
Jacques Cousteau

Captain Jacques Cousteau left his mark forever on the planet and the oceans. When Cousteau and his teams embarked aboard the Calypso to explore the world, no one yet knew about the effects of pollution, over-exploitation of resources and coastal development. The films of Calypso’s adventures drew the public’s attention to the potentially disastrous environmental consequences of human negligence. Cousteau, through his life and his work, was a major player in the environmental movement.

https://www.cousteau.org/
Famous Explorer

JACQUES COUSTEAU

Research Vessel Calypso

www.Cousteau.org
When he was a young man, Jacques was badly hurt in a car accident. Doctors told him he would have to wear amputees for the rest of his life, but he refused to accept this. Just as he had done before, he turned to the sea for strength and swam every day in the Mediterranean.

A friend gave him a pair of goggles so that he could see underwater. Those goggles changed his life forever.