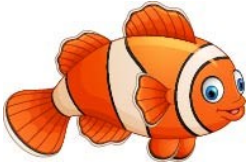


# Animals of the World: Fish



## THE CLOWNFISH



Clownfish became famous because of the movie, Nemo; actually, they have lived in the sea for thousands of years.

Clownfish live in groups on coral reefs. They are small in size, about 10 centimeters. They are brightly colored, predominantly orange, with black and white tones. There are many different species of clownfish, but the best-known one has the base color orange with white spots.



In the movie, Nemo had a shorter fin than the other, but both fins are the same size and have a rounded shape on real clownfish.

One of the most interesting facts is that clownfish are friends with anemones, which are poisonous animals. Despite its toxicity, clownfish are not affected by their poison; they live, reproduce, and eat surrounded by anemones. The anemones help the clownfish defend themselves against their predators. Since clownfish have such striking colors, they are easy prey for their predators. To avoid being attacked, they take refuge in the anemones, which are toxic to their predators. They stay close to anemones. They live for about 10 years.



They live on reefs about 20 meters deep at most. The water is warm and tropical, between 24 and 27 degrees Celsius or between 75 and 80 degrees Fahrenheit.

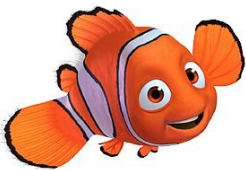
They are omnivorous animals, which means it eats other fish or small crustaceans, algae, plankton, and various plants.



The difference between males and females is difficult to see; the only difference is the size between one another.

They are curious and observant fish. Many people have them as pets in aquariums in their homes. Some believe that they have a great memory because they can return to the place where they were born from any distance.

Following a scientific study from the University of Bristol, some think that climate change is changing the pH levels of the water where clownfish live. Some species of clownfish may disappear; others may become deaf and unable to perceive their predators.



If you would like to have a clownfish as a pet, here are some recommendations you should follow:

- You may have one or more fish in your aquarium if you have enough water. You need about 150 liters of water for two fish.
- The water temperature must be between 24 and 27 degrees centigrade.
- You must check the pH of the water, which measures its level of acidity.
- To feed the fish, buy their food at pet stores, so they don't get poisoned.
- To put an anemone inside the aquarium for clownfish, pay attention to the quality and acidity of the water.
- Initially, put in two clownfish of different sizes or make sure they are male and female.

What about you? Do you want to have a clownfish as a pet?

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



# THE CLOWNFISH



Answer the questions.

1. Clownfish are well known because \_\_\_\_\_

- a. they are curious and sometimes aggressive with humans.
- b. they are enemies of anemones.
- c. they were in the Nemo movie.
- d. they are very toxic and poisonous animals.



2. The clownfish \_\_\_\_\_

- a. live more than ten years approximately.
- b. are white and green.
- c. are omnivorous animals.
- d. use their fins to protect themselves from anemones.

3. If I want to have a clownfish as a pet, I should \_\_\_\_\_

- a. buy an aquarium with capacity for 15 liters of water.
- b. control the water temperature to be less than 24 degrees centigrade.
- c. measure the pH of the water.
- d. give part of my food to the clownfish.

4. Clownfish are animals \_\_\_\_\_

- a. with a great memory.
- b. that need to live in cold water.
- c. that are deaf.
- d. that are carnivores.



5. Anemones are important for clownfish because \_\_\_\_\_

- a. they can take refuge in them.
- b. they eat them.
- c. they help clownfish live more than 10 years.
- d. they are in the Nemo movie.

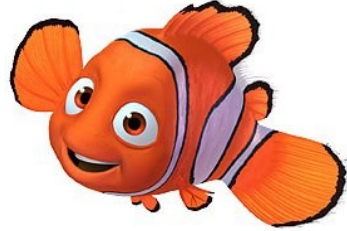
Name \_\_\_\_\_

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## **THE CLOWNFISH**

6. The difference between males and females is \_\_\_\_\_

- a. their color.
- b. their size.
- c. their food.
- d. the pH of the water where they live.



7. Climate change \_\_\_\_\_

- a. affects all fish in the sea, but especially some species of clownfish.
- b. is not really important for animals that live in the sea.
- c. can be solved if we control the level of acidity of the water.
- d. is not a problem for clownfish.

8. To maintain an aquarium with clownfish, \_\_\_\_\_

- a. is simple if some recommendations are followed.
- b. is complicated and almost no one wants to have them as pets.
- c. is easy but you need special permits from the University of Bristol.
- d. requires watching Nemo many times to learn about clownfish.

9. Clownfish are poisonous animals, so they have to live with anemones.

- a. True
- b. False

10. Clownfish have a great memory; they can return to where they were born from any distance.

- a. True
- b. False

