

# Ocean Invaders



Three new interactive zones of U.F.O's (Unique Floating Organisms) are coming to SEALIFE Melbourne!

## THE WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, WHY & HOW OF JELLIES

**Who?** Jellies belong to the phylum *Cnidaria*, which includes 10,000+ species. Of these, 2,000+ are classified as Scyphozoa or "true jellies".

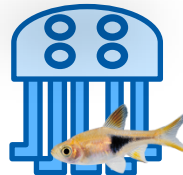
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**What?** Sea jellies' body plans are made of two simple parts: the "bell" (main body which contains the digestive & reproductive systems) & stinging tentacles. They also have a nerve-net in place of a brain, one body opening for waste & feeding, and are radially symmetrical.



**When?** Scientists believe sea jellies have existed for over 500 million years!

**Where?** Sea jellies are found globally, from deep sea to estuarine ecosystems.



**Why?** An important food source for a range of marine life, jellies predators include sea turtles, fish, even other sea jellies! Some jellies also form symbiotic relationships with juvenile fish & crabs who shelter in their tentacles.



**How?** Sea jellies breed sexually, then asexually, and produce up to 45,000 eggs a night!



The Immortal Seajelly *Turritopsis dohrnii*

Ever wish you were a kid again? These jellies do! This terrifically tiny (5mm) species defies the rules of all other animals on Earth! When stressed, perhaps by injury or starvation, this species of jelly is able to revert from a mature adult back to an immature polyp!

Find more info about sea jellies & SEALIFE's new Ocean Invaders display

- SEALIFE Melbourne [www.melbourneaquarium.com.au](http://www.melbourneaquarium.com.au)
- NOAA [oceanexplorer.noaa.gov/facts/worldjellyfishday.html](http://oceanexplorer.noaa.gov/facts/worldjellyfishday.html)
- Oceana <https://eu.oceana.org/en/feature-about-jellyfish>

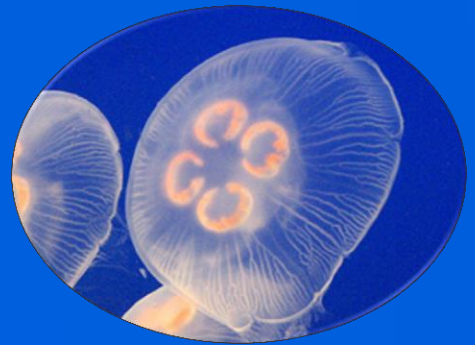
**FACT**

Lions mane sea jellies can grow 36 metre long tentacles!

# Meet SEALIFE's newest U.F.O's below!!! (Unique Floating Organisms)

## **Moon jellies *Aurelia aurita***

A common visitor to Port Phillip Bay, the Moon Jelly are often found in large groups or 'swarms' globally. Very adaptable, these jellies can survive in waters from -6 to 31.c1



## **Blue Blubbers *Catostylus mosaicus***

An important food source for leatherbacks and other sea turtle, these jellies can grow up to a 35cm+ in diameter! Despite their name, they can vary in colour from creamy white, to dark purple and light blue.

## **Upside-down seajelly *Cassiopea andromeda***

Upside jellies have a very clever reason behind their topsy turvy lifestyle. They have a special relationship with algae, which grows within its skin. The jelly sits upside down, tentacles stretching towards the light in, allowing the algae to make food for the jelly to absorb!



## **Pacific Sea Nettle *Chrysaora fuscescens***

These carnivorous jellies swim over 1 km up & down the water column a day preying upon fish, floating snails, and other jellies. In turn, sea nettles are an important food source for large fish, marine birds and sea turtles.

## **Comb jelly species**

Also known as sea gooseberries due to their shape, comb jellies have a series of combs which propel the jelly through the water column. Hermaphrodites (posses male and female gametes), they do not need to find a partner to breed.

