

Cuttlefish

Fact sheet

What are they?

From the Cephalopod family (along with squid and octopus), the cuttlefish has eight arms and two longer tentacles to help them eat. They have a thick internal shell called a cuttlebone.

Where do they live?

You can find Australian cuttlefish in our southern coastal waters. They live in shallow coastal waters, reefs, and seagrass beds.

What do they eat?

They eat small fish, crabs and other crustaceans.

Do they lay eggs?

Yes, the female cuttle can lay up to 300 eggs during breeding season. Baby cuttlefish hatch fully formed and can hunt straight away.

How big can they get?

They can grow up to around 50 cm long (depending on the species).

Fun fact!

They can squirt ink to confuse predators and escape, and use camouflage to blend into their surroundings.

Fun fact!

Cuttlefish can change the colour of their skin and the texture! They do this according to their mood and during breeding season. This means they can use their skin to attract a mate or to camouflage themselves!



Fun fact!

Cuttlefish have three hearts! One for their whole body and one for each of their gills.