



# VIPER FISH

by

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The Viper fish is a fish that lives in the ocean. It can be located in the Northwest Pacific: Navarin Canyon in the Bearing Sea to Japan, Eastern Pacific Gulf of Alaska to central Baja California, the Gulf of California, and many other deep water locations such as Australia, The fish lives in very deep water 1500 to 9000 feet. The Viper fish is

usually 12 inches to 2 feet long, and can live up to 8 years old. They are silvery dark blue with pale fins, and have an eel-like or tube like body. They have two lower teeth larger than there mouth that curve back to almost reach it" s eyes, and a larger skull for wide, hinged jaws for swallowing large prey, and are known to be fierce predators. It" s stomach can expand to swallow prey larger than itself. It also has movable teeth to push prey into its stomach. They eat shrimp, fish, and squid. They reproduce by the female fish producing eggs and the male fish fertilize the eggs. Some interesting facts are: they can produce a light using special light organ that they can shut off at will. They have extremely large teeth. Some of the Viper fish are different colors. They are named the Viper fish because they are such fierce predators. There dorsal fin has a lure on the end of it which they dangle to attract its prey.

