

# Moray Eel

## *Gymnothorax prasinus*



**Description:** This long, muscular, snake-like fish (yes, it is a fish), is greenish-yellow in color. The moray eel is one of few scale-less fishes and it is covered with protective mucus. They have small eyes, and very bad vision. Morays have a small, circular gill on each side of the head, well behind the mouth. The

mouth is kept open (and moving) to help water circulate through the gills. The wide jaws are filled with long, sharp teeth. Moray eels are about 5 feet long and are found hidden in rocky caves and crevices. There are over 100 species of moray eels worldwide.

**Defense:** Moray eels have three rows of sharp, razor-like teeth that curve inward to catch and hold prey.



**Feeding:** Moray eels eat a variety of fishes, octopuses, crabs and shrimp.

**WOW!!** These are not electric eels. There are no electric eels in the ocean! Electric eels live only in the fresh-water rivers of South America.