### Read a Fish



Body Shape

Streamlined (Fusiform or Sagittiform)

strong swimmers, quick acceleration, lie and wait predators



**Laterally Compressed**Slow swimmer, high
maneuverability



**Dorsally Compressed**Bottom Dweller

# Mouth Shape



**Inferior**Feeds on, near the bottom



**Terminal** Active hunter, feeds in front



**Superior**May gulp air or feed near the surface

## Caudal Fin Shape



Lunate

**Forked** 

Rapid swimmer, constantly moving, low maneuverability



Squared



**Emarginate** 



Round

Strong swimmer, slow, high maneuverability

## Camouflage



Reflective scales
Assist schooling fish with predator avoidance, often open water



**Cryptic Coloration**Allows fish to blend in with habitat



**Disruptive coloration**Patterns, stripes, spots to break up the body shape

#### Other



Barbels Sensory organ for taste/smell



**Venomous Spines** Modified spines that inject venom



**Eyes**Size, location of eyes tells about quality of vision



Modified fins
Assist with defense,
hunting or movement

