

Ichthyology (Fish Dissection) Vocabulary

Anterior:	being situated before or towards the front
Bony Fish:	a major taxon comprising fishes with a skeleton that is more bony rather than a cartilaginous skeleton
Countershading:	a coloration of an animal where the top side is darker, and the bottom side is lighter to help camouflage
Dorsal:	being situated near or on the back
Lateral Line:	a line along the outside of a fish that can sense low vibrations to communicate with other fish
Lens:	round, marble-like structure in the eye that focuses light
Operculum:	the covering of the gills of a fish
Posterior:	being situated behind or towards the back
Swim Bladder:	an organ that is located on the dorsal side of the fish that helps keep the fish neutrally buoyant in the water
Ventral:	being situated near or on the lower surface (opposite of back)