# Fish Dichotomous Key

Directions: Use the key below to determine the common name of the fish depicted below.

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_____   _____   _____
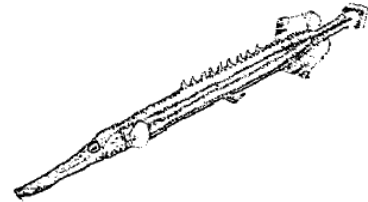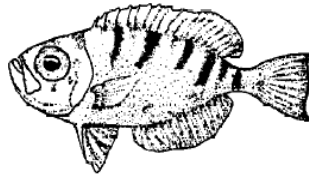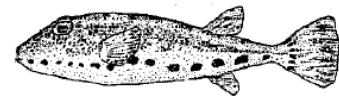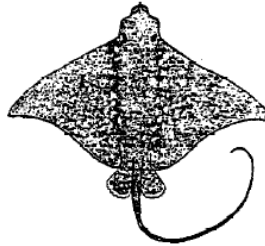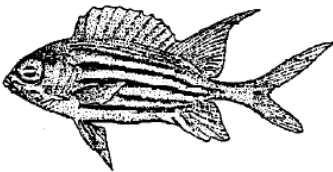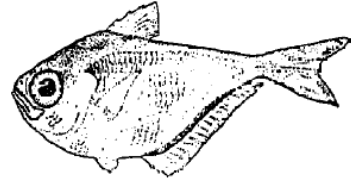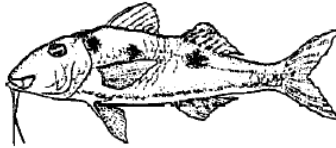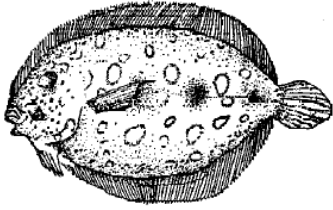
Step 1
-If fish shape is long and skinny… *go to Step 2*
-If fish shape is not long and skinny…*go to step 3*

Step 2
-If the fish has pointed fins, it is a trumpet fish
(*Aulostomus maculatus*)
-If the fish has smooth fins, it is a spotted moray eel
(*Gymnothorax moringa*)

Step 3
-If fish has both eyes on top of the head…*go to step 4*
-If fish has one eye on each side of the head…*go to step 5*

Step 4
-If the fish has long whip-liketail, it is a spotted eagle ray (*Aetobatus narinari*)
If the fish has short, blunt tail,it is a peacock flounder (*Bothus mancus*)

Step 5
-If fish has spots… *go to step 6*
-If fish does not have spots… *go to step 7*

Step 6
-If fish has chin "whiskers," it is a spotted goat fish
(*Parupeneus barberinus*)
-If fish does not have chin "whiskers," it is a band-tail puffer (*Arothron meleagris*)

Step 7
-If fish has stripes…*go to step 8*
-If fish does not have stripes, it is a glassy sweeper
(*Pempheris xanthoptera*)

Step 8
-If fish has a v-shaped tail,it is a squirrel fish
(*Sargocentron bullisi*)
-If fish has a blunt tail, it is a glass-eye snapper
(*Heteropriacanthus cruentatus*)