fish

an animal that lives completely in water and gets oxygen through its gills

anal fin

a fin located on the underside of a fish near the tail; main purpose is to steady the fish while it is swimming

caudal fin

a fish's tail fin; main purpose is to push the fish forward while swimming

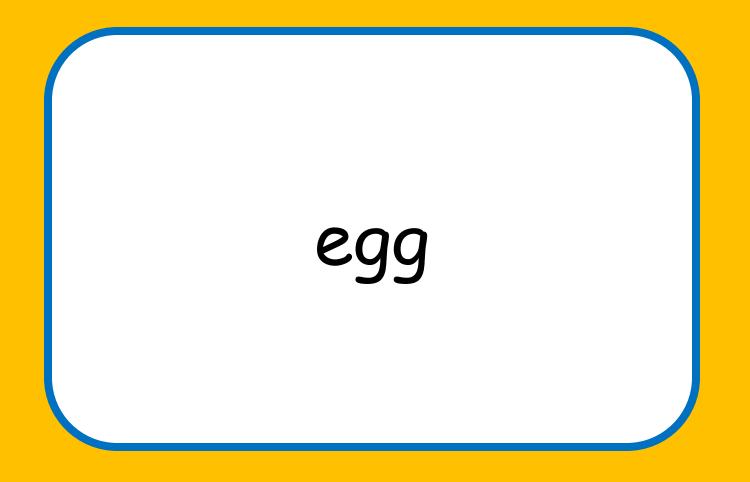
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cold-blooded

keeping a body temperature that is almost the same as the surrounding air

dorsal fin

a fin located on the top of a fish; main purpose is to keep the fish from rolling, but also helps with sudden stops and turns



an oval or round object from which a fish is born

fins

bony spines covered in skin that extend from a fish's body; main purpose is to help a fish swim

gills

organs in fish that take oxygen out of the surrounding water allowing the fish to "breathe"

lateral line

a system of sensory organs found in fish that helps them to identify movement or vibration in the water around them

pectoral fins

a pair of fins located on both sides of a fish's body: main purpose is to help with balance and, in some fish, control their depth in the water

pelvic fins

a pair of fins located on the underside of a fish towards the back; main purpose is to help a fish move up or down through the water, turning sharply or stopping quickly

scales

stiff plates that vary in size and shape and grow out of a fish's skin to help provide protection; most fish scales are covered in mucus (or slime)

school

a group of the same type of fish swimming together in a synchronized way; can also be called a "shoal" if it is a group of different kinds of fish

shark

a kind of fish that is distinguished from others by its skeleton made of cartilage and gill slits

vertebrate

an animal with a backbone; fish are vertebrates