

Remoras (Echeneidae)



whitefin sharksucker, *echeneis neucratoides*

Remoras, also known as suckerfish, are a group of fish that are known for their ability to attach themselves to larger marine animals such as sharks, whales, and rays using a sucker-like organ on their heads. Remoras are found in tropical and subtropical waters all over the world, and they are typically small to medium-sized fish with elongated bodies and slender, pointed heads.

There are several different species of remoras, and they can vary in size and appearance depending on the species. Some species are brown or gray in color, while others have more vibrant coloration, such as silver, blue, or green.

Remoras are generally non-parasitic, and they do not feed on the animals they attach to. Instead, they use their sucker-like organ to attach themselves to larger animals and ride

along with them, taking advantage of the food and shelter provided by the host animal. Some species of remoras also have the ability to swim independently, and they may feed on small organisms such as plankton or detritus.



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The whitefin sharksucker (*Echeneis neucratooides*) is a species of remora that is found in tropical and subtropical waters throughout the world, including the Atlantic, Pacific, and Indian Oceans. It is a small to medium-sized fish, typically reaching a maximum length of about 50 cm (20 inches).

The whitefin sharksucker has an elongated, slender body with a pointed head and a large, oval-shaped sucker on the top of its head. Its body is brown or gray in color, with white or pale blue fins and a distinctive white stripe running down the center of its body.

Like other species of remoras, the whitefin sharksucker uses its sucker-like organ to attach itself to larger marine animals such as sharks, whales, and rays. It is generally non-

parasitic, and does not feed on its host animal. Instead, it takes advantage of the food and shelter provided by the host, and may also feed on small organisms such as plankton or detritus. The whitefin sharksucker is not considered a threat to humans, and it is not known to pose a significant risk to other marine animals.