

The Chameleon Cheetah Fish

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The ocean is a big, vast place with all kinds of creatures, predators and prey. It takes certain adaptations to survive and thrive in it. What if there was a creature out in the ocean with octopuses' chromatophores, a shark's ampullae of Lorenzini, and a sailfish's body shape, size, and fins. Introducing: The Chameleon Cheetah fish.

The first adaptation is the octopuses' camouflage cells, called chromatophores. A chromatophore is an elastic cell, like a tiny balloon. If you stretched out a balloon filled with dye, the color would gather in a single spot, stretching out the surface and making the color appear brighter, chromatophores work the same way. They are just under the octopuses' skin. This is helpful for hiding from predators like sharks and sneaking up on food in coral reefs and on the seafloor in shallow water where there is still light.

The second adaptation is the sharks' ampullae of Lorenzini. ~~The~~ Ampullae of Lorenzini are a network of electroreceptors found in sharks, rays, and chimaeras. The ampullae are a series of symmetrical pores, around the snout and nose, connected by canals filled with gel. This is a good adaptation because it could help the cheetah fish find sea creatures under the sand. It would also be helpful once light is gone, deeper in the ocean.

The last adaptation is the sailfishes' body shape, size, and fins. The size of the fish is about ten feet and its streamlined helps it zoom through the water at speed of up to 68 miles per hour. This is helpful when getting away from big sharks and other predators and when hunting.

The chameleon cheetah fish would do well in the sea because of these adaptations. The sailfishes' body shape, size, and fins make a quick hunter and make it easier to get away from predators. The octopuses' chromatophores make for a good sneak attack and make it almost impossible to find by sight. The sharks' ampullae of Lorenzini help detect predators and prey of the cheetah fish when there is less light. These adaptations help the chameleon cheetah fish live in the deep sea.