Seahorses are fish that wear bony plates as armour and swim upright. Worldwide there are 36 species of seahorse, two in the UK.

They can grow to a max of 35 cm, BUT pygmy seahorses are smaller than your thumbnail.

Genus: Hippocampus (The horse sea monster in Ancient Greek)

They’re masters of disguise, camouflaging into seagrass, coral, mangroves and estuaries, with their curly tails acting as anchors.

Seahorse ‘hold’ tails when they’re courting, then the dad carries the babies in a brood pouch like a kangaroo. Once the tiny seahorses are ready, the dad gives birth.

Using their dorsal fins to swim makes them really awful swimmers. The slowest moving fish in the WORLD is a dwarf seahorse with a top speed of 1.5 metres per hour.

They can also move their eyes individually!

Used in Chinese medicine, but there’s no evidence that they help!

Seahorses eat 30 to 50 times a day. They suck up little plankton and crustaceans like a hoover, but with no stomachs their dinner goes nearly straight through!

Check out our other seahores activities!