

SWIMMING SAWFISH

Materials:

- 2 Paper Plates
- 1 Large Cereal Box
- Stapler
- Coloring Pens & Pencils
- Scissors
- 1 Split Pin

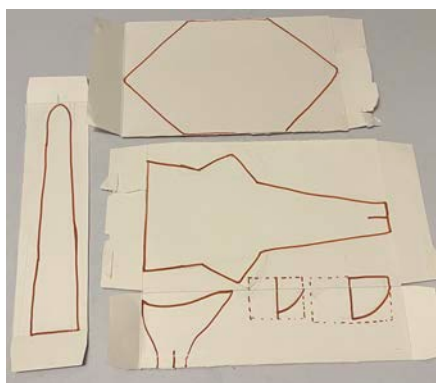


Sawfish get their name from their long toothed snout called **rostra**. Tiny, jelly-filled pores on the rostra called **ampullae of Lorenzini** are sensory organs that detect electric fields in the water. Living organisms produce an electric field so a sawfish can even detect its prey in the murky waters of mangrove habitats.

- 1) Draw the head outline on base of the first plate and cut out. Place this on top of the underside of your second plate, draw around and then cut that out too. Leave aside.



- 2) Using the first large section of the cereal box, draw and cut out the wide **pectoral fins**.

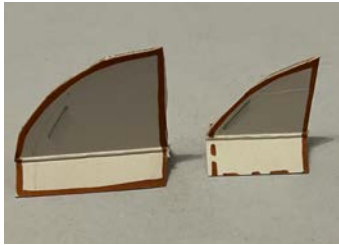


- 3) Using one of the narrow sides of the box draw and cut out a **Rostra** (Long toothed snout used for detecting prey)

- 4) Using the 2nd large section of the box draw out the body and **pelvic fins** down to the tail and cut this out.

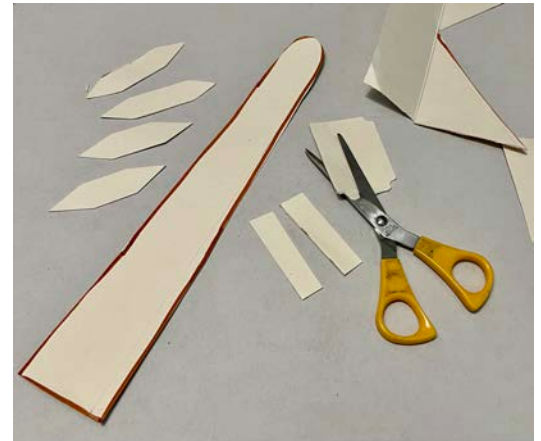


- 5) The other thin side of the box where there is already a fold, draw and cut out two **dorsal fins** (see photo page and the **caudal fin** - tail fin). Construct the fins by folding them in half, cut a slit at the base of the fin up to the fold to create tabs.



(Dorsal fins from)

- 6) Staple around the back edge of the paper plate head leaving the front open to attach the Rostra later.
- 7) Now you can secure the head to the pectoral fins with a few staples.
- 8) Attach the **pectoral fins** and **pelvic fins** with the split pin and bend flat to give your Sawfish its swimming movement. Also secure the small dorsal fins using a staple in each tab to attach them to the main tail.
- 9) Cut a slit in the base of the tail and the **caudal fin**, slot them together.
- 10) To construct the toothed **rostra**, collect any off cuts of the card and cut into thin rectangles, then cut off either end into a point. Staple leaving a gap between each one.
- 11) Slot the saw into the open end of the paper plate head and staple.
- 12) Sawfish use **counter shading**, (darker top side of the body and lighter underside coloration), which is a form of **camouflage** to blend into their surroundings



- 13) Finally give your Sawfish eyes on the top of its head and two **spiracles** (openings just behind the eyes). They use these to pump water over their gills while lying on the shallow bottom. Sawfishes mouths and five gill slits are positioned on the underside.

Where will you take your sawshark on an adventure?