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fish  (fish)Share: [Tweet](#)n. pl. **fish** or **fish-es**

1. Any of numerous cold-blooded aquatic vertebrates characteristically having fins, gills, and a streamlined body and including the bony fishes, such as catfishes and tunas, and the cartilaginous fishes, such as sharks and rays.
2. Any of various jawless aquatic craniates, including the lampreys and hagfishes.
3. The flesh of such animals used as food.
4. Informal A person, especially one considered deficient in something: a poor fish.

v. **fished**, **fish-ing**, **fish-es**

v.intr.

1. To catch or try to catch fish.
2. To look for something by feeling one's way; grope: fished in both pockets for a coin.
3. To seek something in a sly or indirect way: fish for compliments.

v.tr.

1.
 - a. To catch or try to catch (fish).
 - b. To catch or try to catch fish in: fish mountain streams.
2. To catch or pull as if fishing: deftly fished the corn out of the boiling water.

Phrasal Verb:**fish out**

To deplete (a lake, for example) of fish by fishing.

Idioms:**fish or cut bait** Informal

To proceed with an activity or abandon it altogether.

like a fish out of water

Completely unfamiliar with one's surroundings or activity.

neither fish nor fowl

Having no specific characteristics; indefinite.

other fish to fry Informal

Other matters to attend to: He declined to come along to the movie, saying he had other fish to fry.

[Middle English, from Old English *fisc*.]

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