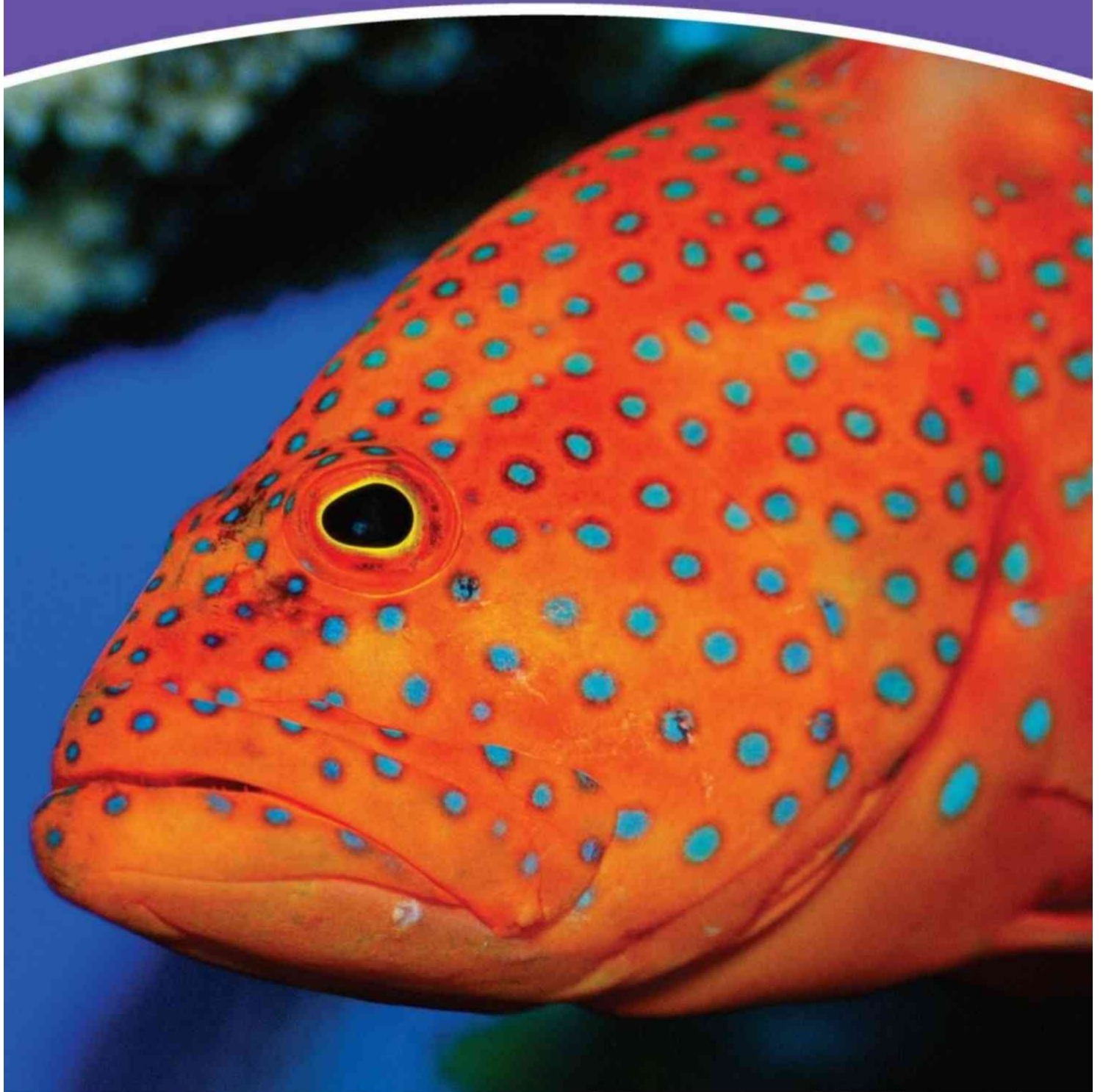




In the Ocean





There is a wonderful world under the waves of the deep, blue ocean. There are millions of animals living down there. Some are big and some are small. Some are beautiful and some are amazing.

Let's explore the ocean together.



Look at this strange-looking fish. It's a lionfish.

Lionfish are beautiful but, like lions, they can be dangerous. Their stripes are a warning. They can sting you with their long spines.

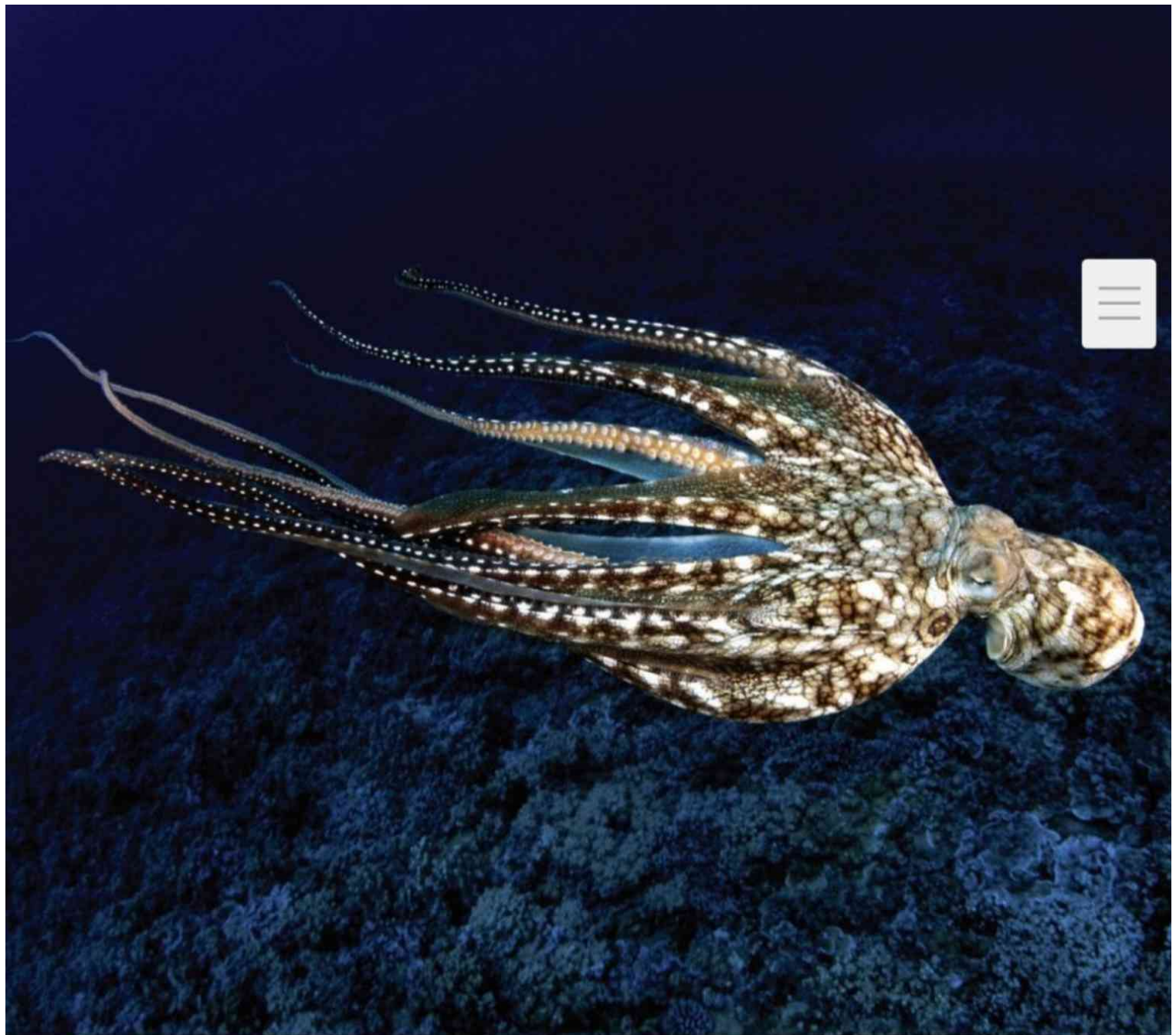
Can you see its eye?



Turtles are big and heavy, but they are good swimmers. They swim thousands of kilometers a year. Their hard shell protects them from sharks and other dangerous fish. They come onto beaches to lay eggs.

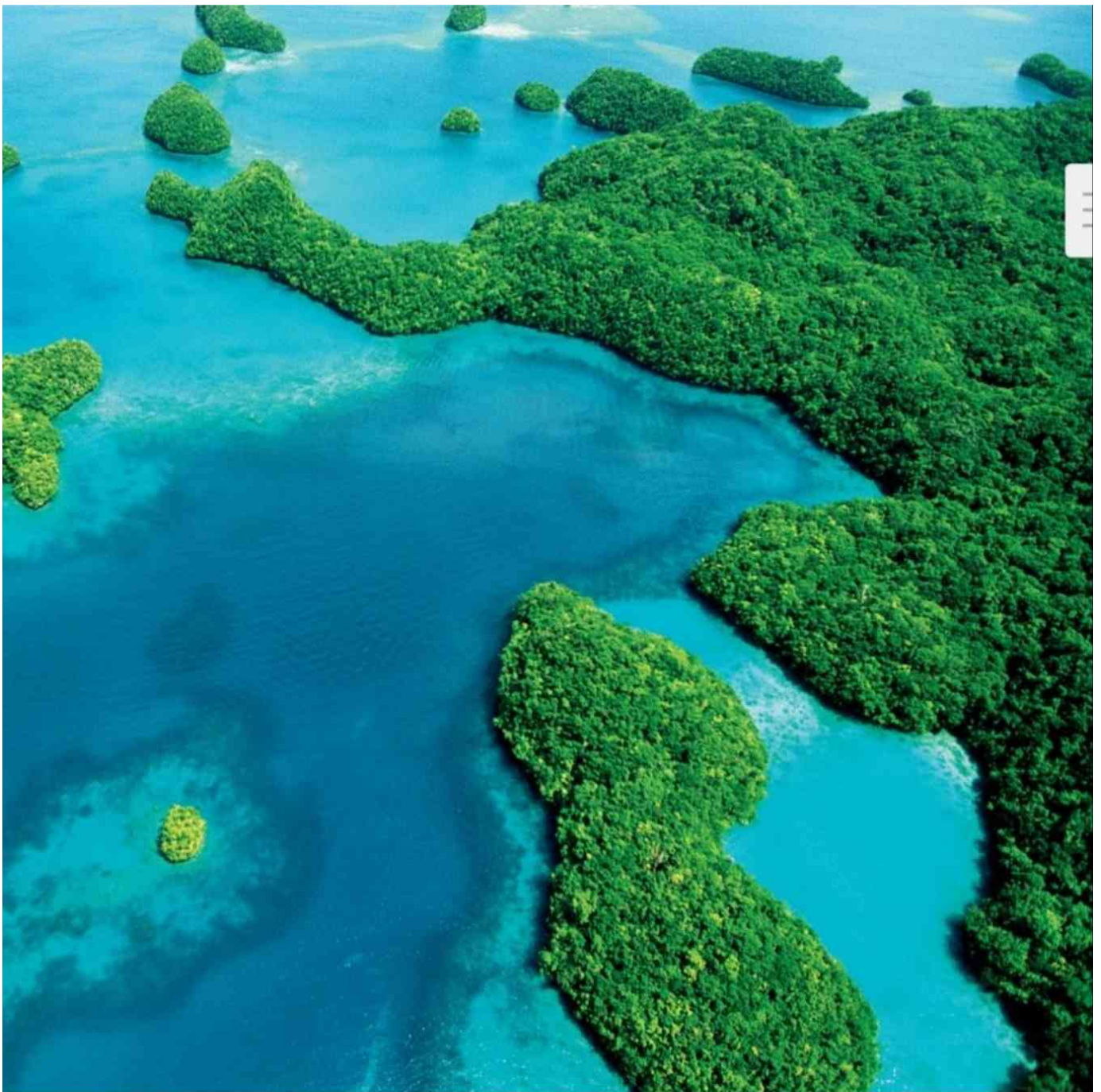
Turtles are in danger because people want their shells and their eggs.





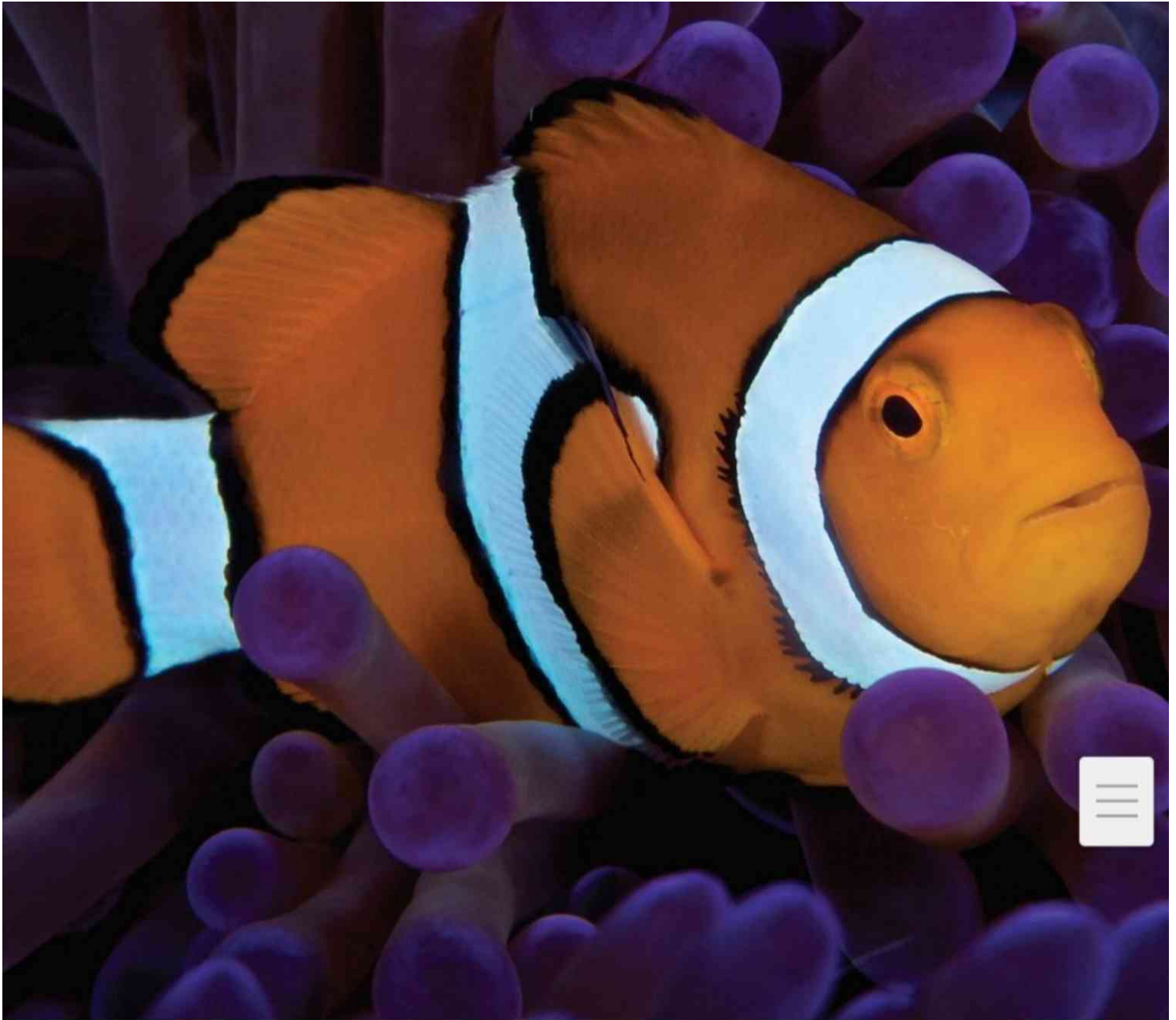
Octopuses live in every ocean. They come in all colors and sizes. Some can even change color. They have eight tentacles. The tentacles are like long, thin arms. They use their tentacles to swim and to catch things to eat. When a fish attacks them, they can squirt ink at it and swim away.



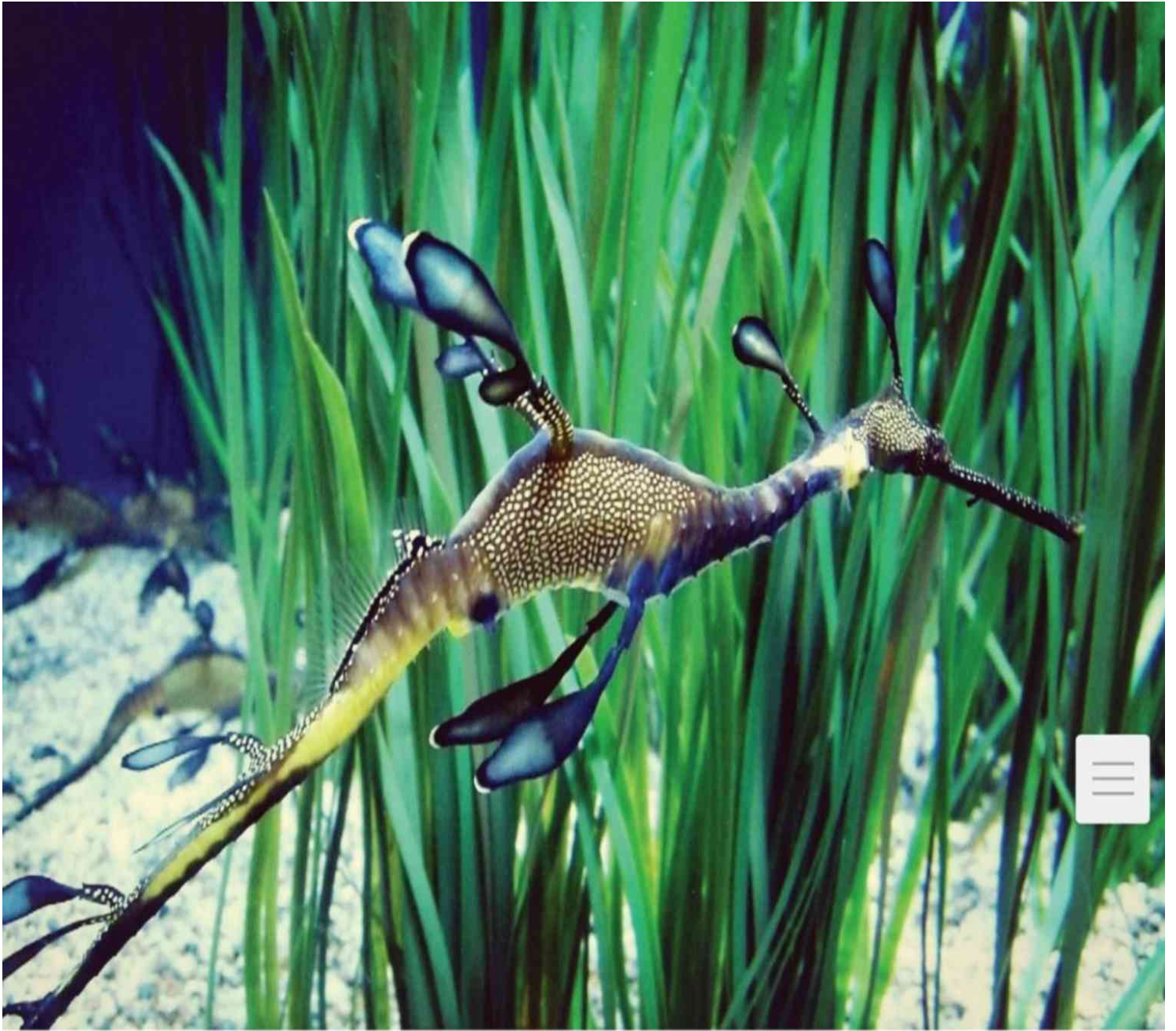


In warm oceans there are coral reefs. Coral reefs look like rocks, but they are really made of millions of tiny animals.

Sometimes coral makes small islands. Coral reefs are home to thousands of fish and other sea animals. They are like busy cities underwater.

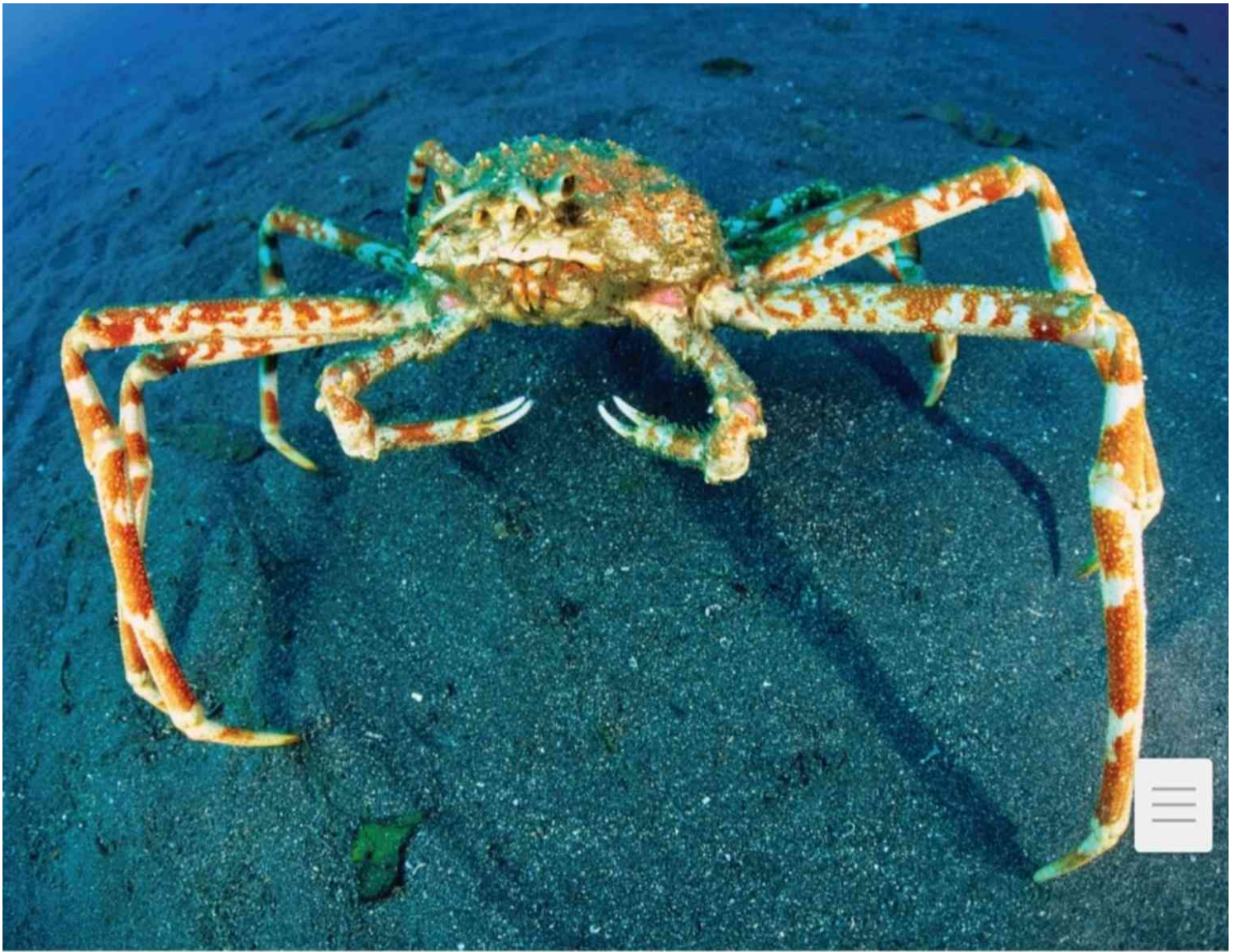


You can find anemones in every coral reef. Anemones look like plants, but they are really animals. They catch small fish with their tentacles. But this clownfish is the anemone's friend. The anemone protects the fish, and the fish cleans the anemone.



Is this a plant or a fish? This beautiful animal is called a sea dragon and it's a fish. It lives in warm water in the Pacific Ocean.

It swims slowly through the seaweed, and hungry fish don't see it because it looks like a plant. Isn't that amazing?



Crabs have ten legs and walk sideways very quickly. They can live in the water and on the beach. They have a hard shell, and two of their legs have pincers.

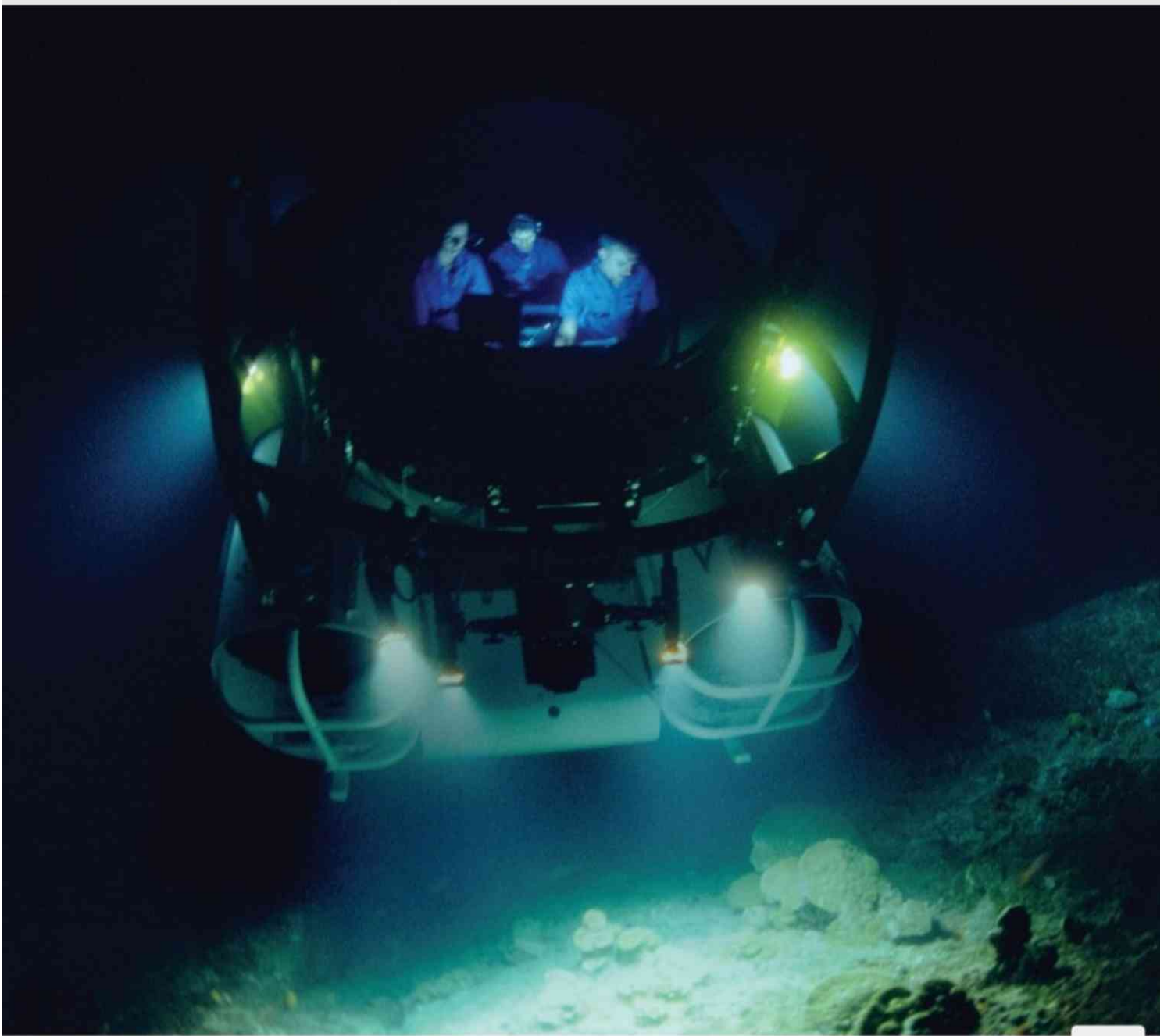
This is the Japanese spider crab. It's the biggest crab in the world, and it can sometimes grow to nearly four meters wide.



Dolphins are some of the smartest animals in the sea. They live in family groups. They can swim very fast and jump high out of the water.



Sometimes dolphins like to race boats, and swim and play with people.



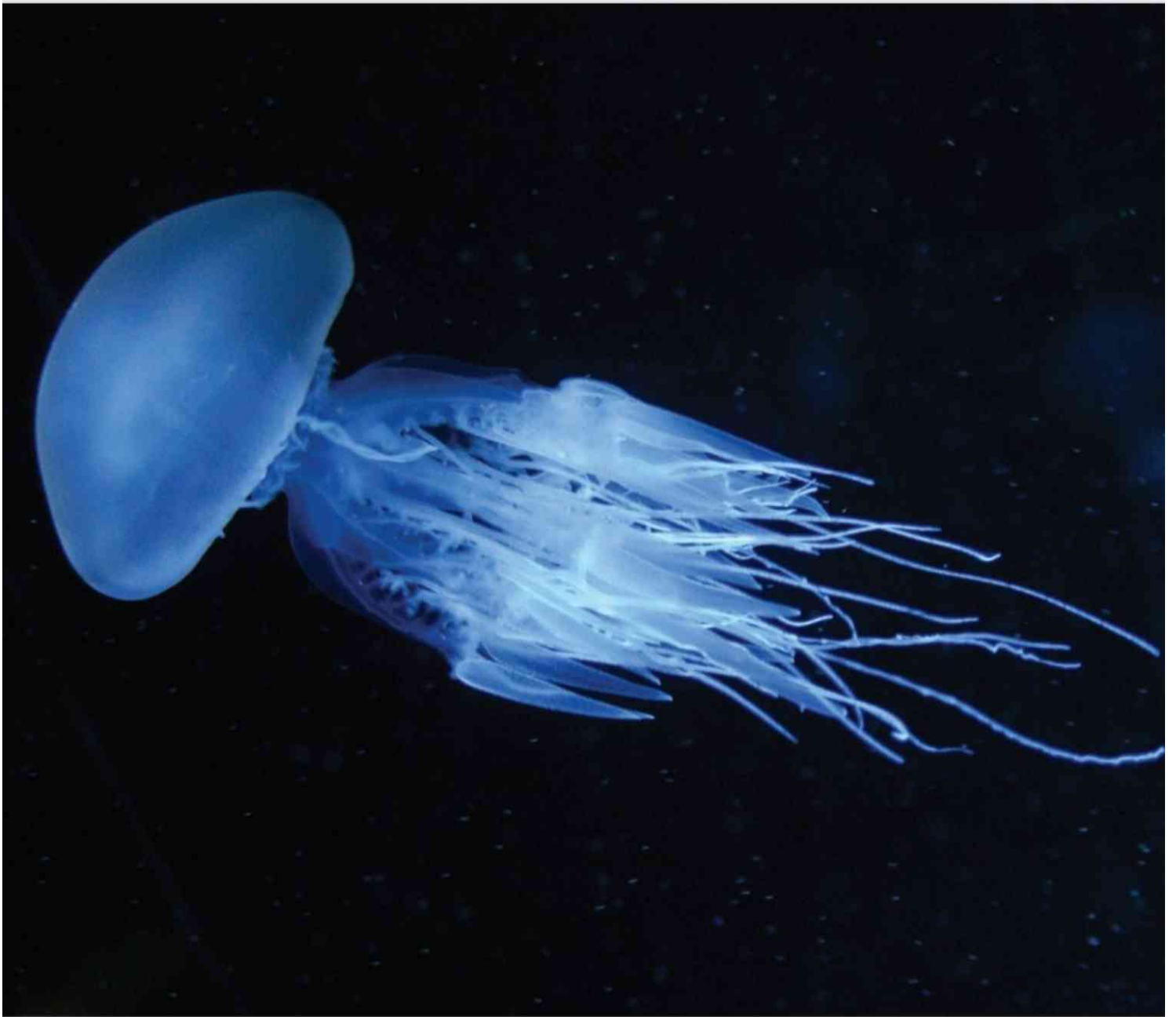
The oceans are very deep. Some parts are so deep that the sunlight cannot reach the bottom. People need special submarines to go down into these dark places. This submarine has lights so it can take photographs of the amazing things that live deep down in the sea.



When you go deep down in a submarine you can see many strange fish. Each of these has its own special way of living in the dark.

This anglerfish has a light on its head. When small fish swim to the light, the anglerfish opens its mouth and eats them.





Jellyfish come in all shapes and sizes. They are soft, they have no bones, and you can see right through them.

They look really beautiful, but their long thin tentacles can sting you. Some jellyfish are very dangerous.

Don't touch them!





These slow-moving animals are called dugongs. They live in the warm water of the Indian Ocean and the Pacific Ocean.

Dugongs are also called sea cows because they eat green seagrass. They look like cows eating grass.



This big, flat fish is a manta ray. Its big fins look like a bird's wings.

Years ago sailors were afraid of manta rays, but now we know that they are harmless. They only eat tiny animals called plankton. This diver is in no danger as he gets a ride on the manta ray's back.



Whales are the giants of the sea. They are mammals, like dolphins and dugongs. They have warm blood and they have to breathe air.

The ocean is a wonderful place to explore, full of strange and exciting life. We must treasure it and protect it.