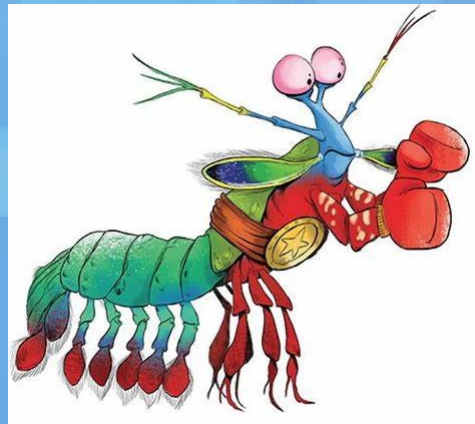


# Small but Mighty: The Peacock Mantis Shrimp (*Odontodactylus scyllarus*)

**Neither Peacock, Mantis, nor Shrimp!**

Peacock Mantis Shrimp are animals that get their name from their vibrant colors, peacock-like tail, and arms like praying mantis.

Special eyes move independently in every direction to see prey. They see wide ranges of color, and even ultraviolet rays



- **Habitat:** warm coral reefs and sand flats in the Indo-Pacific Oceans
- **Lifespan:** 3-6 years
- **Size:** 2-7 inches
- **Prey:** fish, snail, and crab
- **Predators:** Large fish, cuttlefish, squid and octopus

- Spring-like, hammer arms strike at a strength 1000x their body weight **(1312.5 pounds of force!)** and 50x's faster than a blink of a human eye.
- Females use their arms to hold and protect their eggs until ready to hatch.

**Purpose:** The purpose of my informational artifact is to engage aquarium visitors to learn about and appreciate marine animals other than the larger more popular ones. Smaller species are often passed over to see the larger marine mammals, so I wanted to create an exhibit label that catches people's attention and details the unique and amazing features of the Peacock Mantis Shrimp.

**Audience:** The intended audience of my information artifact are aquarium visitors of all ages. It is not over simplified but does not include excess technical information or words an 8th grader wouldn't understand (except for the scientific name). For younger visitors, it provides opportunities for parents or guardians to explain more about the topic to curious children.

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