

The Fighting Fish with *Flair*

Who are they?

- Bettas (*Betta splendens*) are small, ornamental fish, 2-3 inches in length, that are commonly found in household aquariums.
- They usually live up to 3 years in captivity, with some celebrating their 7th birthday with their owners!
- They come in all different shapes and colors, some with long fins and some with short fins.
- Bettas have a special organ called the labyrinth organ. It allows them to breathe air from the surface of the water.

Considering a Betta as a pet?

- Do your research!
 - Bigger is better, but 5 gallons is the recommended minimum tank size.
 - Bring on the clutter! Bettas love hiding spots.
 - Bettas are tropical! They love warmer waters, around 76-81°F.
 - Always use a water conditioner!
 - Regularly test tank water for ammonia, nitrite, and nitrate levels. (Aim for 0ppm ammonia, 0ppm nitrites, and 20ppm nitrates.)
 - Change 20% of the tank's water every week.

What do they eat?

- These fish are carnivores. They love snacking on larvae, insects, and other various small aquatic creatures!



Where do they live?

- They originated in Thailand.
- They can be found in aquariums across the world!
- They come from slow moving shallow waters, like ponds. They love a slow current and densely planted home.

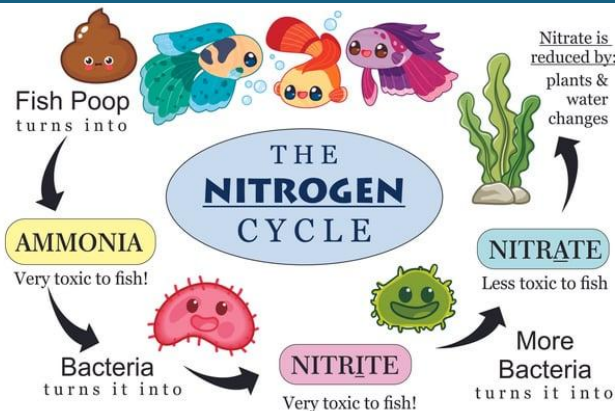


What gives them their flair?

- Betta fish are known for their territorial displays. They are often seen flaring their gills to ward off other fish or competition.



Remember to cycle your tank!



Audience

The intended audience is aquarium hobbyists and aquarium visitors.

Purpose

The purpose is educating visitors about characteristics of Bettas and promote general responsible pet ownership.

Bibliography

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