



## Jellies Invasion: Oceans Out of Balance

These unique and prehistoric creatures are featured in an exhibit that is mysterious and colorful as the jellies themselves. Visitors will learn the story of how various species have thrived for millions of years as Predators, Survivors, Competitors, Neighbors and Invaders.

Up to nine of these amazing Jellies species could be featured at any one time in Jellies Invasion:



### Atlantic Sea Nettle

*Chrysaora quinquecirrha*

**Range:** Coastal waters from Cape Cod to southern Texas.

**Physical Features:** Bell-shaped with up to 24 stinging tentacles trailing from the edges of the bell, typically white and semi-transparent. Some specimens have maroon strips on the bell.

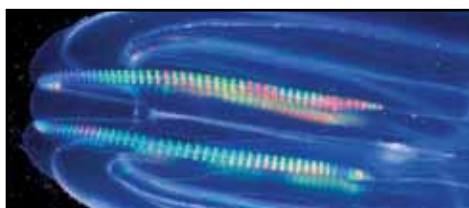


### Blue Blubber Jelly

*Catostylus mosaicus*

**Range:** Coastal waters of eastern and northern Australia.

**Physical Features:** Ranges in color from white, light blue to dark purple and burgundy, and its bell pulses in a distinctive, staccato-like rhythm.



### Leidy's Comb Jelly

*Mnemiopsis leidy*

**Range:** Coastal waters from Cape Cod to Carolinas; invasive to Black Sea.

**Physical Features:** Walnut-shaped body that is mostly transparent; maximum length up to 4 inches.



### Lion's Mane Jelly

*Cyanea capillata*

**Range:** scattered distribution worldwide from the Arctic to the Antarctic regions. Found in the Chesapeake Bay during the cooler months from late November to May.

**Physical Features:** This jelly has been described as "a mop hiding under a dinner plate." Its translucent bell can range from deep red to reddish-purple areas in the center, with younger individuals having a yellowish-brown hue. Juveniles are often milky or colorless. Being relatively thick-bodied has earned this jelly the nickname "sea blubber." In addition, its oral arms exude a thick, slimy mucus with a strong fish odor, explaining why some Australians have taken to calling this jelly "snottie."



### Moon Jelly

*Aurelia aurita*

**Range:** Temperate and tropical oceans worldwide.

**Physical Features:** Translucent white, saucer-shaped bell, with a blue-gray transparent disk at its center through which the horseshoe-shaped gonads are visible. Purple or orange gonads identify males, while yellow gonads identify females. Short fringelike tentacles hang from the bell margins. Can grow up to the size of a dinner plate.



### Northern Sea Nettle

*Chrysaora melanaster*

**Range:** The Bering Sea, northern Atlantic, Pacific, and Arctic Oceans.

**Physical Features:** This jelly's bell can reach to more than 1 meter (3.3 feet) in diameter. Its tentacles can grow to a length of 3-6 meters (10-12 feet). Species derives its scientific name from the Greek words melas and aster, which translates to "black star" in reference to the pattern on its bell.



### Pacific Sea Nettle\*

*Chrysaora fuscescens*

**Range:** Primarily off the U.S. West Coast, occasionally as far south as Mexico and as far north as British Columbia; has been spotted around Japan.

**Physical Features:** Bell is yellow to reddish-brown, and tentacles are dark maroon.



### Purple-Striped Jelly\*

*Chrysaora colorata*

**Range:** Primarily off the coast of California.

**Physical Features:** White bowl-shaped bell with 16 purple stripes and very long tentacles.



### Spotted Lagoon Jelly

*Mastigias papua*

**Range:** Bays, harbors and lagoons in the South Pacific Ocean.

**Physical Features:** Rounded bells and strange clumps of oral arms with club-like appendages that hang down below. These jellies love the sunlight, which fuels the growth of symbiotic algae growing in its tissues, giving them a greenish-brown to blue color. They harvest some of their food directly from the algae.



### Upside-Down Jelly

*Cassiopea xamachana*

**Range:** Caribbean, Hawaii and Florida.

**Physical Features:** This jelly does not look like the typical jellyfish, appearing as a flower on the seafloor. The bell is flat and shaped like a saucer. Color can vary, but is typically greenish gray-blue. It has four pairs of elaborately branched but unfused oral arms.



### Egg Yolk Jelly\*

*Phacellophora camtschatica*

**Range:** Alaska to southern California; temperate oceans like the Atlantic and the Mediterranean Sea.

**Physical Features:** This jelly looks like a fried egg with a broken yolk. The jelly's bell is pale white or yellow-white, with translucent margins. The central gonadal mass is a vivid yellow.

*\*Species will not be on exhibit at the time of opening.*



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