

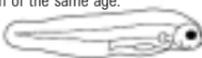
Never seen a fish do that before!

Flounders, also known as flatfish, can be found laying flat in the sands of shallow Biscayne Bay. As juvenile fish it starts out with an eye on both sides of its head. But shortly after hatching, one eye begins to migrate to the other side so that both eyes are on the same side of the fish! The eyes migrate independently of each other and rotate nearly 360 degrees.

These fish have spectacular vision to see their predators and

catch their prey. Flatfish have the ability to rapidly change the color of their skin to match their surroundings. With a little bit of burrowing, these animals can hide with just their eyes poking out of the sand appearing almost invisible, thus causing divers and unwanted predators to often overlook them until they move in the sand. Flounders are found to be popular among commercial and recreational fishermen and are a tasty treat to eat.

As tiny juveniles, flounder look like other fish of the same age.



As they develop, they start to flatten and one eye drifts upward.



As they take on the unique shape of a flounder, the eye keeps moving upward and what was once their left side becomes their underside.

