

# Animal Fact Sheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Japanese rice fish

*Oryzias latipes*

The Japanese rice fish, also known as medaka, is a small freshwater fish native to East Asia, particularly Japan. It is renowned for its adaptability to a wide range of environmental conditions, including low oxygen levels and high temperatures.

### Quick facts

**Classification:** Fish

**Family:** Adrianichthyidae

**Habitat:** Freshwater ponds, rice paddies, and slow-moving streams

**Diet:** Omnivore

**Conservation status:** Least Concern

**Lifespan:** 2-4 years

**Weight:** 0.3-0.5 grams

**Scientific name:** *Oryzias latipes*

### Did you know?

- The Japanese rice fish was one of the first vertebrates to have its entire genome sequenced, making it a model organism in genetics.
- Japanese rice fish have been sent into space for research on development and genetics. They can tolerate low oxygen levels and a broad range of water temperatures.

### What I learned

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