JAXON EXPLORES!

EXPLORER PACK / EPISODE 7

Color & Discover

Whiptail Gulper Eel - A Big Gulp in the Deep!

Explorer name: _____

Color the whiptail gulper eel. Add marine snow around it!

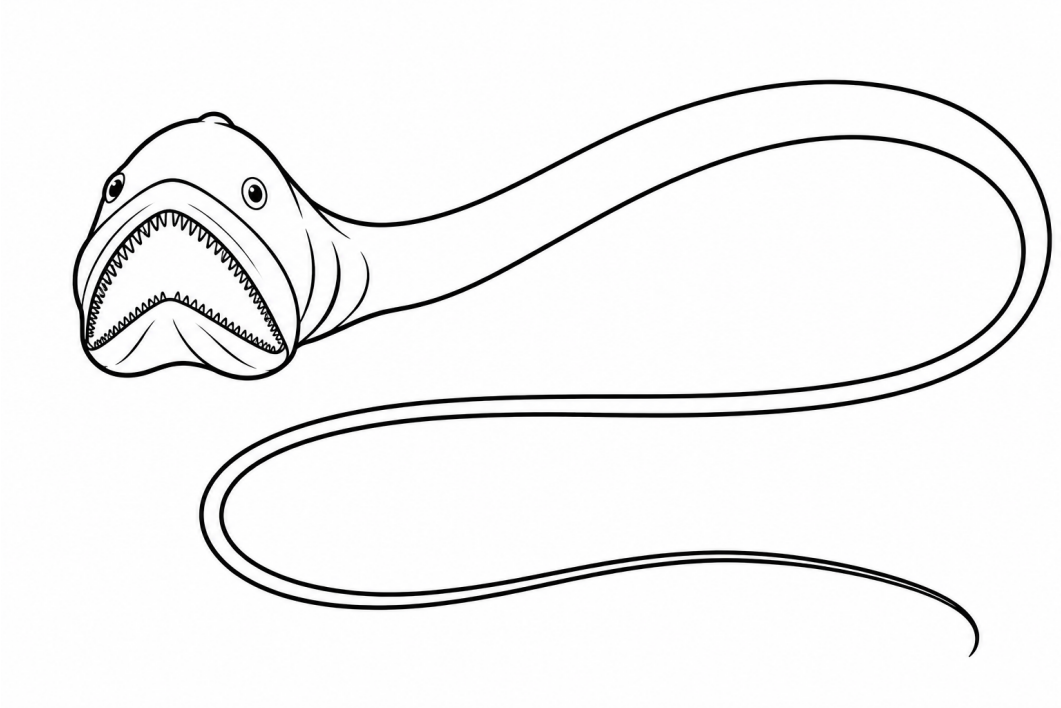


Illustration of Saccopharynx lavenbergi. Not shown to scale.

THREE FASCINATING FACTS

1. **A big mouth for a scarce meal.**
   Its large jaws help it catch food, including small fishes.

2. **A home far below the waves.**
   It lives in midwater, about 300 to 2,000 meters deep.

3. **A glowing mystery.**
   Scientists think its glowing tail tip may help lure prey.

TRACE IT. THEN WRITE IT!

WHIPTAIL GULPER EEL

Explorer Puzzles

Whiptail Gulper Eel - A Big Gulp in the Deep!

DEEP-SEA WORD SEARCH

Find six words. Look across or down. No backward words!

G	U	L	P	E	R	T	P	M	W
N	L	H	N	H	H	I	P	T	U
K	O	E	D	V	B	M	A	A	O
N	C	U	E	H	R	F	G	I	I
F	E	L	C	X	N	O	O	L	M
F	A	M	M	G	J	J	Q	O	F
G	N	H	F	D	E	E	P	W	I
E	I	W	J	L	Y	A	Q	P	S
J	G	L	O	W	G	Y	N	D	H
I	Y	A	X	T	B	C	R	M	I

WORDS TO FIND

GULPER

OCEAN

TAIL

DEEP

GLOW

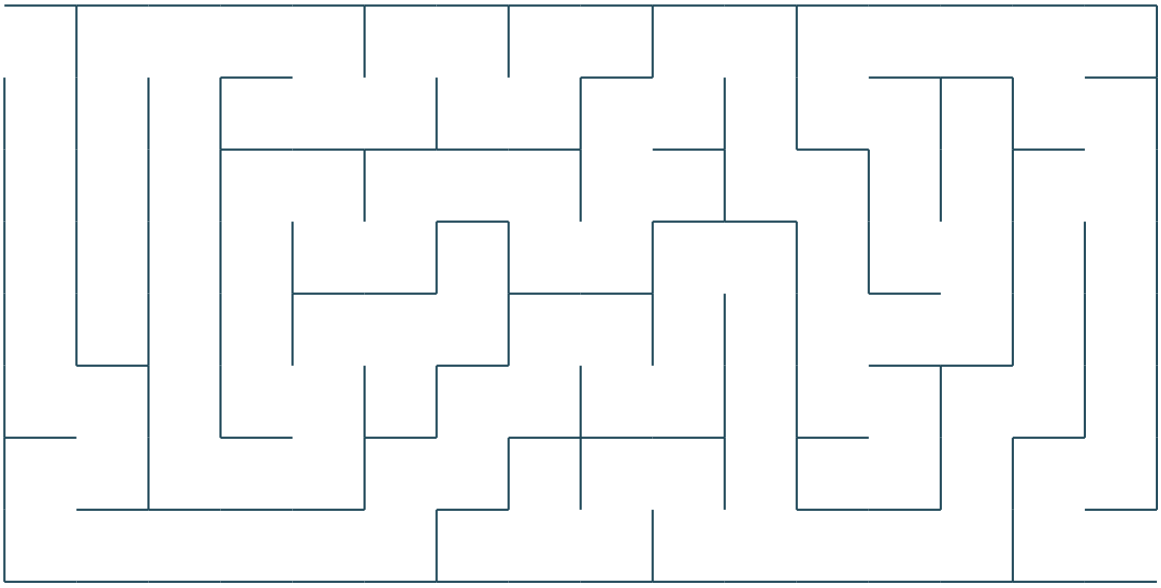
FISH

SUBMERSIBLE MAZE

Help Jaxon find the eel. Trace a path from START to FINISH.

START





FINISH



EXPLORER EXTRA

Measure one meter of string: this eel can grow about that long!

Explorer Challenge

Whiptail Gulper Eel - A Big Gulp in the Deep!

LISTEN, THINK & ANSWER

1. How does a big mouth help this eel find a meal?

2. Does it live in deep midwater or on a sunny beach?

3. What do scientists think its glowing tail tip might do?

DRAW YOUR DISCOVERY

Draw a deep-sea creature. Give it a clever way to find food!

WHO WOULD WIN? YOU DECIDE!

Choose an imaginary matchup. Circle your pick and explain why.

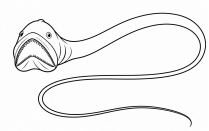
Whiptail gulper eel vs. Anglerfish

Whiptail gulper eel vs. Barreleye fish

My reason:

Think about size, jaws and habitat. There is no certain winner!

DEEP-SEA



EXPLORER

EPISODE 7

MISSION COMPLETE!

☐ I listened ☐ I discovered ☐ I created

GROWN-UP ANSWER GUIDE

1. It helps catch food. 2. Deep midwater.

3. It may lure prey. This is a scientific idea, not a certainty.

Word search: GULPER R1 C1 across; OCEAN R3 C2 down; TAIL R2 C9 down; DEEP R7 C5 across; GLOW R9 C2 across; FISH R6 C10 down. Matchups: thoughtful answers welcome.

Facts: MBARI, mbari.org/animal/whiptail-gulper-eel/ | AI-generated animal illustrations.