

Family Tetraodontidae (puffers)

Puffers are largely marine but also can be found in brackish and freshwater habitats. They typically do not have scales but can have spines or prickles on the body. The caudal fin of puffers can be either forked or rounded. Puffers are capable of inflating themselves with water as a deterrent to predation. Some puffers are omnivorous while others prefer invertebrates and algae. Puffers reproduce by laying eggs in a nest; some species defend nests while others do not. Summarized from Nelson (1994).