The Yellow Boxfish (or “Boxy”) is one of 25 species of Ostracion cubicus. Despite the boxfish being easily identified, the boxfish’s micro-fin adaptations allow instant response, making them one of the most elusive fish in the reef. Critical since they are at the bottom middle of the food chain!

**Toxic!**
When stressed, the boxfish secretes between 5-100 mg of the poison mucus that kills everything in a tank in 10 minutes!

**Stats**
- Average Length: 4-5”
- Max Size: 18”
- 18 vertebrae

**Features**

**Super Powers**

**Bottom Feeders!**
- Eats algae, crustaceans, and mollusks in the Pacific and Indian Oceans

**Natural Habitat**

**Habitat in Captivity**

**Adaptation #1**
Releasing poison helps box fish protect themselves against predators

**Adaptation #2**
Developing multiple fins on the tail and sides improves the boxfish’s stability and maneuverability.

**Adaptation #3**
The stony, fused-plated carapace of the boxfish helps protect the fish from becoming easy prey.

**Adaptation #4, part 1**
The polka-dotted pattern of the box fish helps disguise its eyes (and the fact that it’s a fish)

**Adaptation #4, part 2**
Boxfish change shape throughout the course of their lives to adapt to the changing current patterns.

**Camouflage**
The polka-dotted pattern of the box fish helps disguise its eyes (and the fact that it’s a fish)

**Protective Shell**
The stony, fused-plated carapace of the boxfish helps protect the fish from becoming easy prey.

**Protective Inspiration?**
In 2005, the car company designed its Bionic car after the boxfish’s self-stabilizing shape!

**Prima Donna**
- Minimum tank size: 100 gallons
- Cost: $26-$697
- Water Temperature: 72-78 Degrees

**Cost**
- $26-
- $697

**Water Temperature**
- 72-78 Degrees

**Fun Fact**
- 5-100 mg Toxic!

**Spins on a Dime!**
Developing multiple fins on the tail and sides improves the boxfish’s stability and maneuverability.

**Carapace Contortion!**
Boxfish change shape throughout the course of their lives to adapt to the changing current patterns.

**Carapace Inspiration?**
In 2005, the car company designed its Bionic car after the boxfish’s self-stabilizing shape!