

PROPERCULUM

Meaning: Properculum: a bony or cartilaginous flap that covers and protects the gills in fish.

1. The properculum acts as a protective cover for the delicate gills in many fish species.
2. In the study of fish anatomy, the properculum is crucial for understanding respiratory functions.
3. Researchers documented the evolution of the properculum across various aquatic habitats.
4. The properculum can vary significantly in size and shape among different genera of bony fish.
5. Observing the properculum's movement can provide insights into a fish's breathing patterns.

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