

Eyes

A stingray's eyes are perched on the top of its flat body. This helps the stingray keep a look out even when the rest of its body is buried in the sand.

Spiracles

Besides gills, stingrays have an extra adaptation to help them breathe while resting on the bottom. Look for special openings near the eyes. Instead of sucking sandy water in through their gills, they can pull clear water in through these top-side spiracles. This water is then pushed out through their gill slits.

Fins

The fins on the side of a stingray's body act like wings to help it "fly" gracefully through the water.

Gills

Like other fish, stingrays breathe with the help of gills. A stingray's gill slits are on the underside of its body.

Barb

Many stingrays have one or more sharp, venomous spines along their tail. A stingray can defend itself by lashing out if threatened by a shark or other predator.

Mouth

A stingray's mouth is conveniently located on the underneath side of its body. This way, it's easy to slurp up small, crunchy creatures that are hiding in the sand.

