



Jellyfish ID Card

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Species 1: Common Jellyfish (*Aurelia aurita*). This is the most familiar jellyfish. It is recognised by its four purplish/pink gonad rings. The rest of the jellyfish is transparent and has numerous short tentacles around the margin of the bell (difficult to see when out of water). Up to 400mm in diameter, normally much smaller. Found from April to September. **Mild sting.**



Species 2: Compass Jellyfish (*Chrysaora hysoscella*). Most distinguishing characteristic is the reddish-brown 'V' shaped markings on the bell. Has 24 long tentacles dangling from the margin and four frilly mouth-arms trailing from the inside. Colour is white to yellow with brown 'V' shaped markings. Up to 500mm in diameter. July to September. **Can sting.**



Species 3: Barrel jellyfish (*Rhizostoma octopus*). These jellyfish are surprisingly solid to feel and have a massive dome shape. They have a ghost white colour with purple lobes around the margin. Dangling from the centre are eight mouth-arms that resemble a cauliflower in shape. They have no tentacles but prolonged exposure **can cause an allergic reaction.** Up to 1m in diameter! All year round but most abundant in July to September.



Species 4: Blue jellyfish (*Cyanea lamarckii*). Translucent body with blue-purplish ring inside. Masses of tentacles on the margin. Up to 300mm in diameter. Like a smaller version of the Lion's Mane. Occurs April to July, uncommon. **Stings!**



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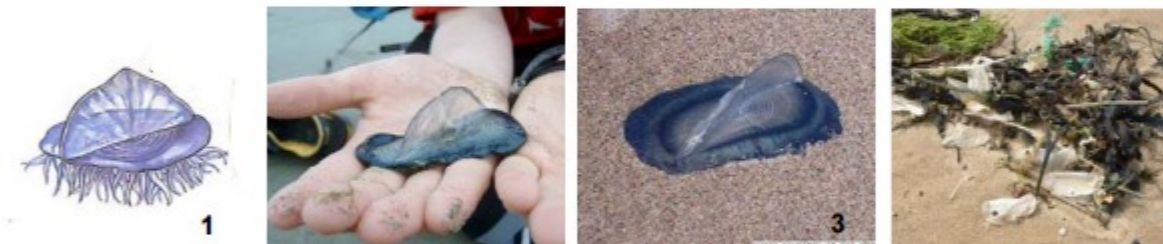
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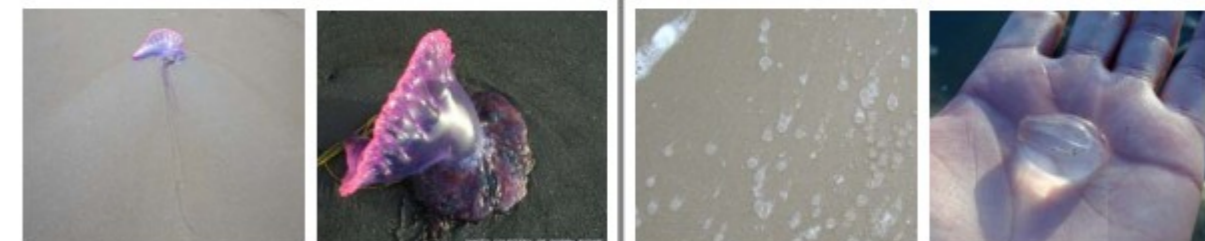
Species 5: Lion's Mane Jellyfish (*Cyanea capillata*). Can reach a bell diameter of 2 meters, normally much smaller. Bell margin divided into 8 lobes and 8 clusters of up to 150 tentacles each. Tentacles are longer than the oral arms. Colour varies from deep red to yellow individuals. **Warning! These jellyfish sting severely.**



Species 6: Pelagia jellyfish (*Pelagia noctiluca*). Bell has warts or bumps on it. Very small jellyfish, about the size of a closed fist, up to 10cm in diameter. Has only eight tentacles. Occurs autumn/winter. Similar to the common jellyfish, however they occur at different times of the year. **Warning: Can sting**



Species 7: By-the-wind-sailor (*Velella velella*). Not a true jellyfish, but a close relative. Bluish oval disk reaching 8cm in length. Equipped with a 'sail' that projects above the surface of the water to catch the wind and aid their dispersal. Around the margin of the float is a ring of tentacle-like fishing appendages. Can occur all year round. **Mild sting**



Species 8: Portuguese Man O'War (*Physalia physalis*). Again not a true jellyfish but related. Large & conspicuous float up to 30cm long & 10cm wide. Float is silver-blue with red/pink tinging, rest of colony is blue purple. **WARNING! Inflicts severe stings.**

Species 9: Sea gooseberry (*Pleurobrachia pileus*). Not a jellyfish at all but a Ctenophore. Shaped like a gooseberry and is transparent. Up to 20 mm long. If you look close you can see 8 ciliary plates or comb rows. **No sting.**

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First Aid for the treatment of jellyfish stings:

- Ensure you don't get stung yourself when aiding others
- Remove any attached tentacles with a gloved hand, stick, or towel (none of these available use the tips of your fingers)
- Do not rub the affected area (this may result in further venom release)
- Rinse the affected area with sea-water (do not use fresh water, vinegar, alcohol or urine)
- Apply a 'dry cold pack' to the area (i.e. place a cold pack or ice inside a plastic bag and then wrap this package in a t-shirt or other piece of cloth)
- Seek medical attention if there is anything other than minor discomfort • If the patient is suffering from swelling, breathing difficulties, palpitation or chest tightness then transfer to the nearest emergency department urgently.