

## Fun Facts about Fluorescence:

Biofluorescence is found in species across the tree of life. Biofluorescence is known in:

- Over 180 species of fish
- Over 100 species of corals
- Numerous other marine creatures (jellyfish, algae, rays, sharks, eels, shrimp, sea turtles, etc.)
- Multiple species of birds (emperor and king penguin beaks, parrot feathers, puffin beaks, owl wings, etc.)
- All species of scorpions
- At least 45 species of spiders, 20 species of butterflies, 10 species of beetles, 14 species of bees, and in many species of dragonflies, millipedes, and cockroaches
- Nearly every species of plant (as chlorophyll is fluorescent) and in nearly every part of plants (wood, bark, leaves, fruits, flowers, etc.)
- Over 35 amphibian species (across frogs, salamanders, and caecilians)
- Many species of reptiles (snakes, lizards, and turtles- marine and terrestrial)

There are two ways that organisms can glow: bioluminescence (think fireflies) and biofluorescence (what we are going to find/talk about in this Lunch and Learn!)

Fluorescence has been found to act in sexual attraction (bees and flowers, birds, spiders), intraspecies recognition (copepods), camouflage (reef fishes), and signals of condition (leaves, fruits, mammals)