

In case of a Catfish, Arius, the mouth cavity of male is used as the place of the shelter of eggs until their development into the youngs. In Sea catfish, Galeaichthys felis, the mouth cavity is used as an incubator for protecting the eggs. The mouth cavity of this catfish has the carrying capacity of 10-30 fertilized eggs. This also happens in case of the cardinal fishes, but here the carrying capacity of the mouth is about hundred or more eggs.

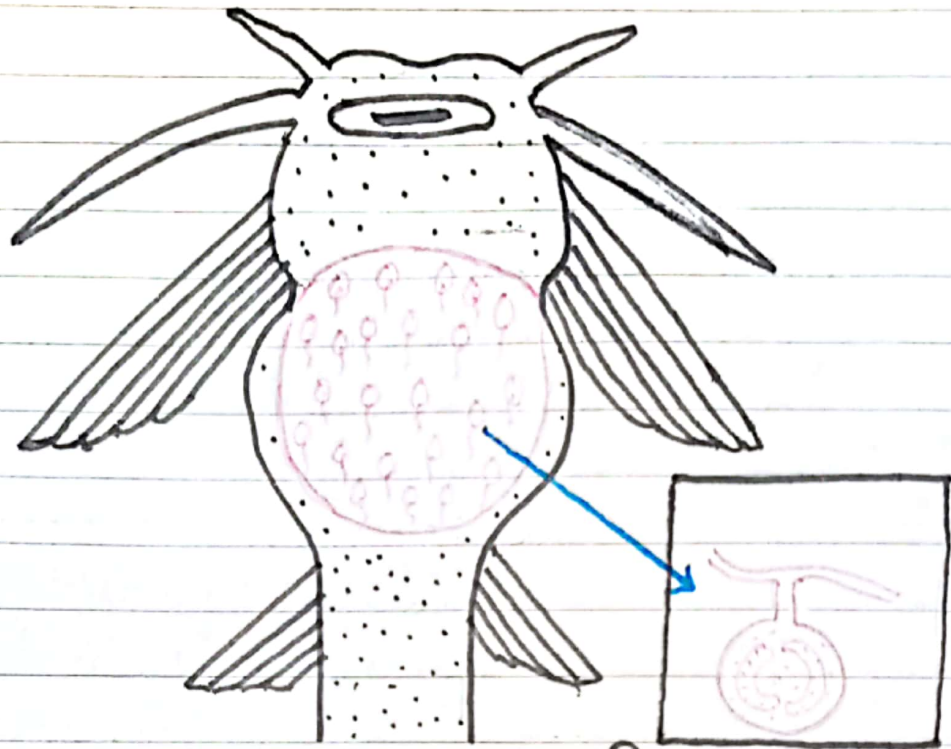
enclosed heated compartment in which a baby born prematurely can be kept.

### C. FORMATION OF THE INTEGUMENTARY CUPS

In case of an obstetric obstetrical catfish, Platyistachus, a peculiar type of parental care is seen. During the spawning season, the ventral surface of the body of the female becomes soft and spongy. After laying the eggs in such a way that they get attached to the ventral surface

branch of medicine and surgery dealing with child birth

of the female by their inconspicuous stalk until their development into the young.

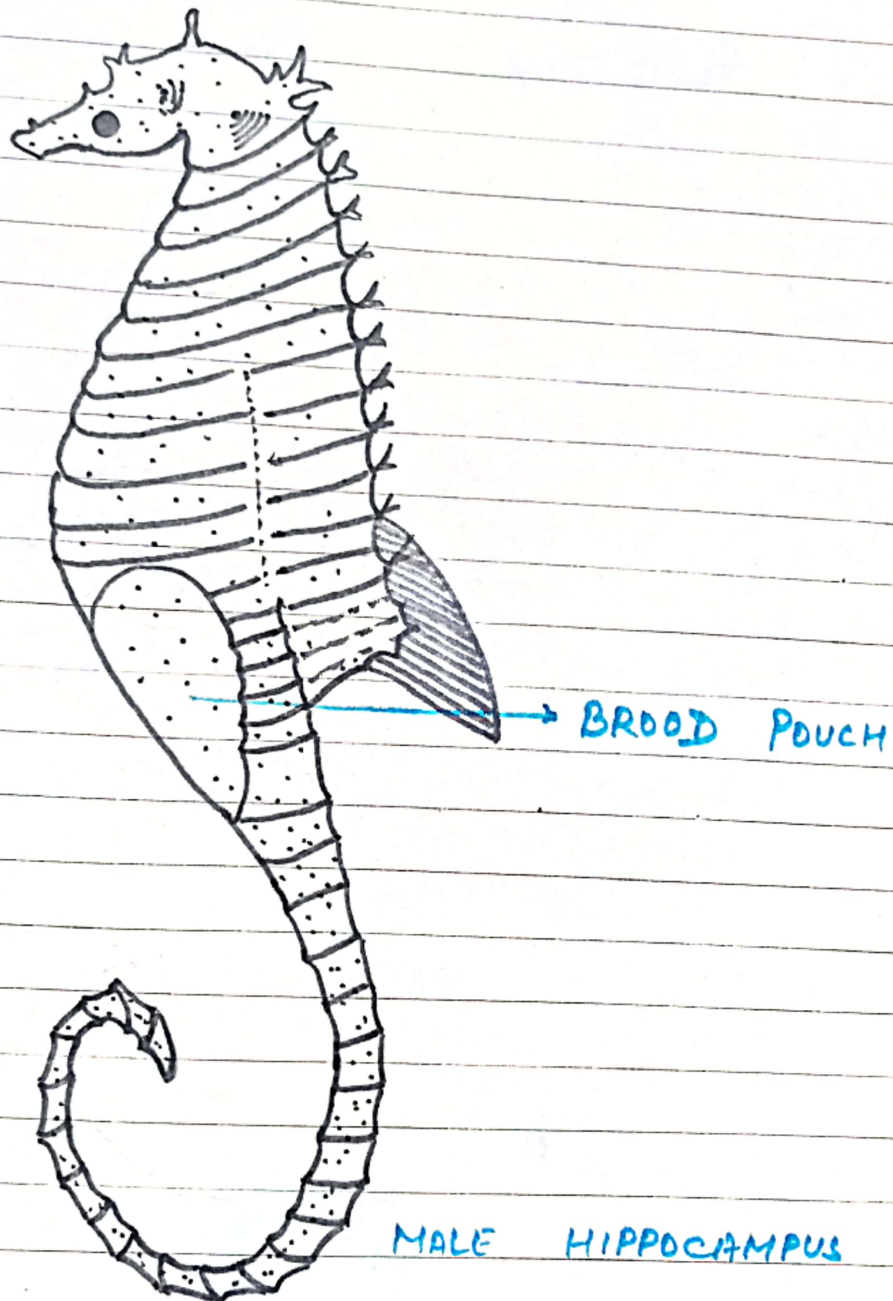


OBSTETRICAL CATFISH, PLATYSTACHUS

D. COILING AROUND THE EGGS — In case of Plois, the female lays eggs at suitable places and the male protects these eggs until their development by coiling around them.

E. DEVELOPMENT OF THE BROOD POUCH — In case of Syngnathus and Hippocampus, the female lays and places the eggs

into the brood pouch of the male, where the development of the eggs starts.



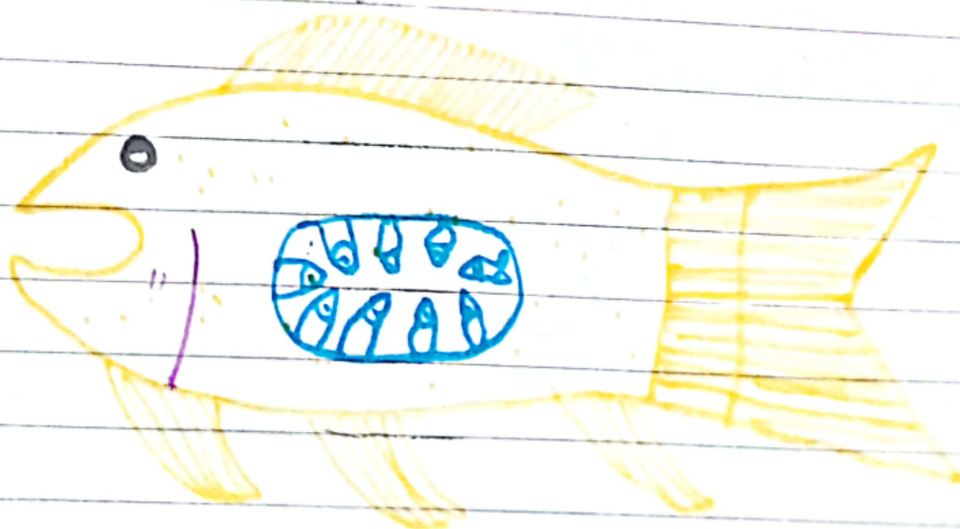
In case of a Brazilian Catfish (Loricaria tybus), the lower lip of the male forms a pouch like structure,



10

where the eggs are placed  
by the female and the  
development of the eggs  
also occurs here.

**VIVIPARITY** — The highest  
degree of the parental care  
can be seen in case of  
the viviparous fishes. In  
viviparous fishes, the eggs  
are developed within the  
uterus of the female and  
youngs come out directly  
at the time of parturition.  
The nourishment is provided  
into the uterus by means  
of the yolk sac placenta.  
e.g. — Surf perch  
Sharks (Squaliformes)  
and Eleutherothorax etc.



\* Oviviviparity - In case of the coelocants, Rotatoria chalamnae, the development also occurs within the uterus, because the female is ovoviviparous. In this way a remarkable parental care can be also seen in case of this coelocants.

G. CARE OF THE HATCHLINGS BY FISHES-

Although most of the fishes take care of their eggs, but there are certain fishes, who also care for their hatchlings. They hide them at suitable places and guide them to those.

e.g. - Gastreastrus, Swordfish, Catfish (Ictalurus punctatus)

H. LAYING THE EGGS AT SUITABLE PLACES-

Most of the fishes take great care in laying their eggs. Some fishes lay the eggs into the mantle cavity of the freshwater mussel (Rhodens), where as there are certain fishes, who lay their

eggs in the carapace of  
the Kamohatka crab.  
e.g. - Careproctus.

## CONCLUSION —

After having a bird's eye view on the above given accounts, we come to the conclusion that the fishes with the fear of extinction have undergone extreme degeneration and modifications. The structural modifications of the body as well as the diversities into the habits and habitats too the fishes do show a great degree of parental care towards their eggs and young.