

Salty Taste. Odyssey of a sardine

Introduction

Sardines are very common type of fish that can be found in the Mediterranean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean, from the Canary Islands to Norway and Finland, where they arrive after coasting Great Britain. Sardines love open sea! And their flesh is very tasty... this is why they are the favourite prey of all predators. All predators love them!

In early June every year, they migrate and give life to a unique phenomenon known as the "sardine run", which usually ends in July in South Africa.

Just think about it: millions of sardines swimming as fast as they can to lay their eggs... but millions of them do not pass unnoticed, predators such as dolphins, penguins, sharks, seals, whales can't wait to eat them up! And when they are threatened, they group together and form a giant ball.

Yes, a ball! The sardines pack together and create a fortress unbreakable by predators. Their life is safe when they are all together.

The group takes the shape of a huge silver ball, that gets larger and then smaller, thicker and narrower. Sometimes, they can take the shape of a predator, and this smart strategy allows them to scare and confuse their enemies while remaining united.

A group of sardines swimming together is an amazing sight, they can create forms and shapes that change as they move within the group... but what if a sardine gets lost? What could happen to it? It would surely follow a certain "Salty Taste"!