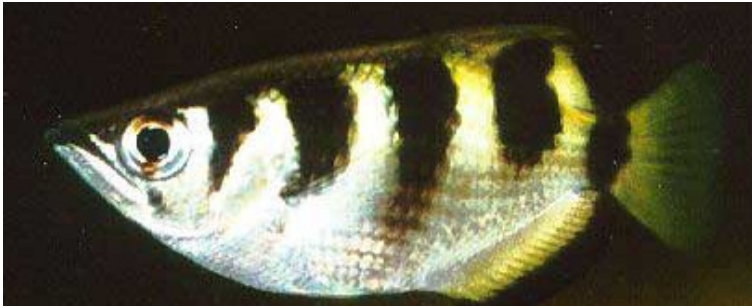


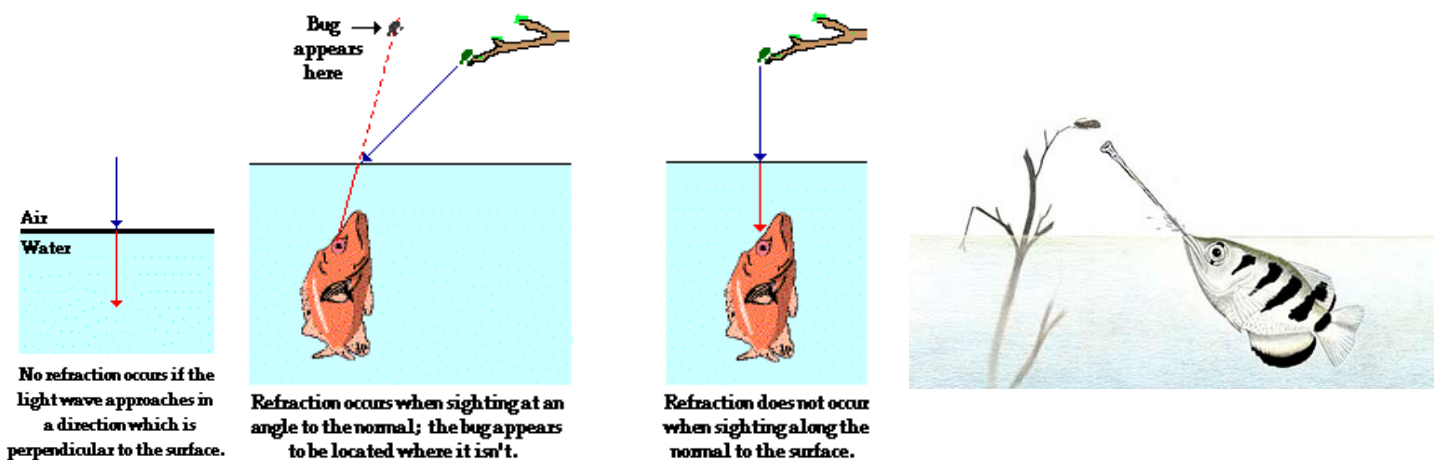
THE ARCHER FISH



Most archer fish have simple black-and-white markings (which help camouflage them in their dark, watery surroundings) and a flat, slender, vertically shaped body (which allows them to approach their prey by stealth, thereby remaining almost invisible).



An archer fish shoots a powerful stream of water at its prey, which is intended to knock the prey into the water where it can be devoured. However, on occasion an archer fish will actually jump out of the water to catch its prey in mid-air as it falls.



Before an archer fish shoots its “arrow” of water, it must adjust the angle of the stream to adjust for light refraction, which causes the prey to look like it is in one place, when, in reality, it is in another.

Artist’s concept of archer fish shooting at an insect perched on a plant. The archer fish can shoot rapidly up to seven times in succession.