

The Pier Aquarium presents the Celebrity Critter of the Week!



<http://www.reefcorner.com/>

Royal Gramma

Scientific Name: *Gramma loreto*

Description: very colorful and distinctive fish; the front half of its body is a deep purple and the back half a bright yellow.

Habitat: Natural range covers the Bahamas, Venezuela and the Lesser Antilles; lives in coral reef environments.

Top 10 Facts:

1. Royal Grammas reach about 3" maximum size.
2. The Royal Gramma is a planktivore and eats mostly zooplankton and crustaceans.
3. The Royal Gramma resembles a fish called "the false gramma."
4. Another common name is Fairy Basslet.
5. When it is time to breed, the male Royal Gramma will build a nest among rocks using pieces of algae.
6. The female will deposit 20-100 tiny eggs.
7. The fish demonstrates territorial aggression toward its own kind.
8. It is in the family **Grammatidae**, which are the basslets.
9. This fish has a distinctive black spot on its dorsal fin.
10. The largest Royal Gramma ever recorded was only 3.1 inches!