

## Fire Eel (*Mastacembelus Erythrotaenia*)

**Distribution:** Thailand, Borneo and Sumatra

**Water temperature:** 23-27 degrees Celsius

**Max size:** 24-30 inches

**Ideal tank size:** 550 litres and above

The Fire eel is a great addition to the right aquarium, beautiful markings and a brilliant character to match. Only one should be kept per aquarium as they do not get on well with their own species. A large community setup with larger (45 inch) tank mates would be ideal.

They spend most of their time partially buried in the substrate or hidden away in a cave, with only the head poking out keeping watch. When spooked they can move very fast so a 5-6 foot tank would be best to allow adequate space to swim away. A tight-fitting lid is also required as they can jump out the tank.



A sand or very fine and smooth gravel substrate would help to protect this fish from damage while burying itself. Clay or plastic pipes make great hideaways, as do smooth rocks and bogwood.

They eat a variety of frozen and fresh foods, including prawns, bloodworm, krill, earthworms and cockles.