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**HeadLine:** GET UP CLOSE WITH THE FISHES

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Fancy getting a closer look at marine creatures without getting wet? Then head to Sentosa's Underwater World Singapore, which has become the first aquarium in Asia to acquire remotely operated vehicles.

Called Ocean Invaders, they are equipped with lights, propellers and a video camera that can take underwater footage. It costs \$1 to use the machine for 10 minutes. Visitors can move it in any direction within the Tunnel Exhibit to approach marine life or to get a better panoramic view. The vehicles are about the size of a football and weigh 3.5kg each.



Mr Abdul Shukor, Underwater World's senior diver, said: "It will be fun for the kids. They can get up close and personal with the fishes."

But how are the fishes dealing with this alien intrusion? Said Dr Jeffrey Mahon, the curatorial director: "When we first got it, we realised that if you move it real fast, the fishes get scared and move away. But if you go slow, the fishes are actually curious."

LIM HENG LIANG