古巴骨雀鳝

延续至今的古老铰齿鱼类

古巴骨雀鳝是雀鳝科中体型较大的物种之一，也是现生较古老的辐鳍鱼类。它身体细长，吻部延长，口中具有排列紧密的尖锐牙齿，全身覆盖坚硬的菱形硬鳞，展现出雀鳝类独特的适应。古巴雀鳝属于伏击型捕食者，主要捕食鱼类及其他水生动物。其鳔具有丰富的血管结构，能够辅助空气呼吸，使其可以适应部分低氧水域环境。雀鳝类起源悠久，在中生代已经出现，并保留了许多独特的形态特征，为研究辐鳍鱼类的演化历史和生态适应提供了重要线索。

Atractosteus tristoechus

An Ancient Gars Lineage Surviving Today

The Cuban gar is one of the larger representatives of the family Lepisosteidae and one of the most ancient lineages of living ray-finned fishes. It has an elongated body, an extended snout, and densely arranged sharp teeth, with the entire body covered by hard rhomboid ganoid scales, displaying the distinctive adaptations of gars. The Cuban gar is an ambush predator that primarily feeds on fishes and other aquatic animals. Its swim bladder contains a rich network of blood vessels and can function as an accessory respiratory organ, allowing it to tolerate low-oxygen aquatic environments. Gars have a long evolutionary history, first appearing in the Mesozoic, and have retained many distinctive morphological features. They provide important insights into the evolutionary history and ecological adaptations of ray-finned fishes.