Bleeding Heart Tetra

Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff

Hyphessobrycon erythrostigma

Bleeding Heart Tetra

Quick Stats: Bleeding Heart Tetra
Family: Characidae **Range:** South America **Size:** Up to 2½ inches **Diet:** Omnivore **Tank Set-up:** Freshwater: Plants, rocks **Tank Conditions:** 72-77°F; pH 6.0-6.5; KH 4-8 **Minimum Tank Capacity:** 10 gallons **Light:** Medium **Temperament:** Peaceful **Swimming Level:** Middle **Care Level:** Easy **Reproduction:** Egg Layer

The Bleeding Heart Tetra gets its name from the markings on its body. The blushing red near the gills gives this South American fish a "bleeding heart" look. Perfect for the community aquarium, this hardy tetra will be a great choice for the beginner to the expert aquarist.

A planted aquarium of at least 10 gallons will be the ideal environment for this tetra. Rocks and driftwood help mirror its natural habitat and will help to reduce stress on the fish. The Bleeding Heart Tetra does best with soft, slightly acidic water with high filtration.

The Bleeding Heart Tetra will breed occasionally in an aquarium setting and a hospital or "breeding tank" will be necessary. Slightly acidic water is best for optimal breeding habits. After spawning, remove the parents from the breeding tank.

The Bleeding Heart Tetra will accept many small foods such as brine shrimp or daphnia, freeze-dried bloodworms and tubifex, micro pellet food, and a high quality flake food.

Ideal tank mates include:

- Tetras
- Dwarf Gouramis
- Danios
- Rasboras
- Rainbowfish
- Discus
- Angelfish
- Guppies
- Platies
- Mollies
- Swordtails
- Plecos
- Small Scavenger Catfish

*Unauthorized use of any images, thumbnails, illustrations, descriptions, article content, or registered trademarks of **Foster & Smith, Inc.** is strictly prohibited under copyright law. Site content, including photography, descriptions, pricing, promotions, and availability are subject to change without notice. These restrictions are necessary in order to protect not only our copyrighted intellectual property, but also the health of pets, since articles or images that are altered or edited after download could result in misinformation that may harm companion animals, aquatic life, or native species.*