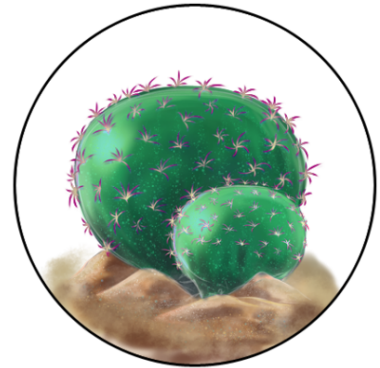


KURA

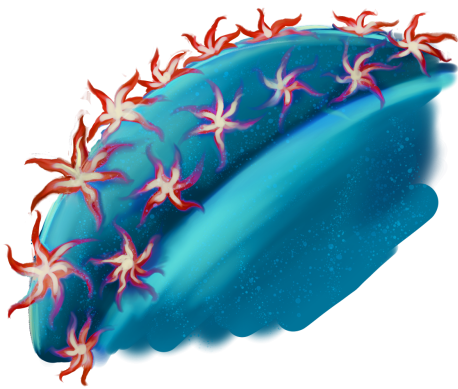
- ▶ **Height:** Approx. 2-3ft
- ▶ **Classification:** Eccentric
- ▶ **Life expectancy:** Over 100 years



A spherical, arid-environment plant that comes in almost every colour of the spectrum, the kura is named after the Arabic word for “ball”.

Physiology

This plant is spherical, and grows either singly or in clusters of various sizes. Kura can come in most colours depending on species, including black, grey, and white, although red and green specimens are particularly common. The only colour the kura cannot produce is dark blue; pale blue versions are moderately common in areas where the temperature can become very cold at night, and is the result of a protective film on the plant’s surface.



All species grow a network of tiny, fronded leaves (see close-up, left) in a grid arrangement across the plant’s surface. They are soft, but tough enough to withstand full sun in arid environments. The kura’s make-up - a barrel with tiny leaves - allows it to defend itself from being chewed by animals for

its water content.

Kura reproduce via spores which grow on the undersides of the leaves.

Medical Conditions

There are no current medical conditions associated with kura.

🌍 Geographical Distribution 🌍

Kura grow in arid and semi-arid environments.

🌳 Position in Ecosystem 🌳

This plant contains a lot of moisture but is tough-skinned and hard to open. Kura 'barrels' are large enough that biting them open is too difficult for most animals, and the few animals large enough to get their jaws around such a plant are usually carnivorous and do not recognise them as a source of water.



🦖 History 🦖

Kura have little in the way of notable history. All that can be said is that they have reached the notice of neolithic species who are capable of seeing most colours in the spectrum, but this has had little to no impact on Kaleidean history.



Culturally, kura are most noted for their appearance. However, they have yet to be used in decorative horticulture, as the neolithics of Kaleida have yet to enter the agricultural age.

Food

Kura contain large amounts of water but are generally hard to open, so they remain a largely untapped water source.

Art

Some neolithic species particularly like the kura for its ability to grow in so many colours. The occasional artistically-minded individual, such as a kasulam, may carve patterns into the surface of a kura to add an extra dimension to the plant's appearance. If this is not done too extensively, the plant will survive and develop grey-white scar tissue where the damage occurred.

Language

It is possible that kura plants may stimulate the development of written language among Kaleida's neolithics, due to its surface being soft enough to scratch or carve, which leaves the plant with permanent marks.

Politics

To say that the kura plant has the potential to impact on politics would probably be an over-statement. It currently lacks the economic value to be politically useful - no wars are likely to be fought over them.

However, as the kasulam like to carve into these plants, they potentially serve a purpose as signposts or notice boards. In the current day the carvings are unusual, and even when they do occur they are usually patterns rather than coherent messages, but if they were to be used to communicate, then they might begin to hold political value of a sort.

Economy

Kura are more useful as signposts than anything else. Their use as signposts is limited however, due to the neolithics having little in the way of written language in the current day.

Money / Trading System

Kura have no commercial value so cannot be traded.

Education

Perhaps not so much education, as communication. Kura are just soft enough to be scratched to leave messages from one individual to another. However, the marks take a while to turn from wounds into scars, so the messages communicated would necessarily need not to be time-sensitive.

Changeable information would not be advisable to write on a kura, either. As the message cannot be wiped clean, and as the plant will remain in situ for multiple generations, most neolithics have the common sense to realise that only messages with long-term relevancy should be written - if it must be written at all.

Medicine

Kura have no known medicinal value.

Credits

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Kaleida is © [The Character Consultancy](#)

Artwork by [Taleea](#)

Wording by [The Character Consultancy](#)

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~Hayley, The Character Consultancy