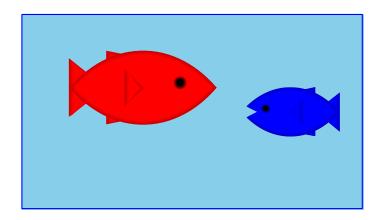
#### Aquarium

Our zoo was so successful, let's start an aquarium



For a fish, we only care about its weight, so for two fish:

```
; An aquarium is
; (make-aq num num)
(define-struct aq (first second))
```

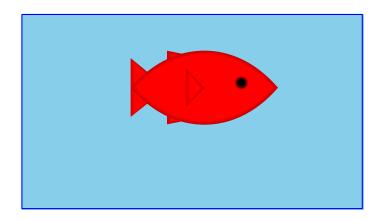
## Aquarium Template

```
; An aquarium is
; (make-aq num num)
Generic template:
; func-for-aq : aquarium -> ...
; (define (func-for-aq a)
; ... (aq-first a) ... (aq-second a) ...)
; aq-weight : aquarium -> num
(define (aq-weight a)
  (+ (aq-first a) (aq-second a)))
(check-expect (aq-weight (make-aq 7 8)) 15)
```

And so on, for many other simple aquarium functions...

## Tragedy Strikes the Aquarium

Poor blue fish... now we have only one



Worse, we have to re-write all our functions...

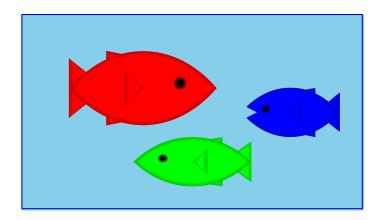
```
; An aquarium is
; (make-aq num)
(define-struct aq (first))
```

## Aquarium Template, Revised

```
; An aquarium is
     ; (make-aq num)
     ; func-for-aq : aquarium -> ...
     ; (define (func-for-aq a)
    ; ... (aq-first a) ...)
; aq-weight : aquarium -> num
(define (aq-weight a)
  (aq-first a))
(check-expect (aq-weight (make-aq 7)) 7)
And so on, for all of the aquarium functions...
```

## The Aquarium Expands

Hooray, we have two new fish!



Unfortunately, we have to re-re-write all our functions...

```
; An aquarium is
; (make-aq num num num)
(define-struct aq (first second third))
```

# A Flexible Aquarium Representation

Our data choice isn't working

- An aquarium isn't just I fish, 2 fish, or 100 fish—it's a collection containing an arbitrary number of fish
- No data definition with just 1, 2, or 100 numbers will work

To represent an aquarium, we need a *list* of numbers

We don't need anything new in the language, just a new idea

#### Structs as Boxes

#### Pictorially,

- define-struct lets us define a new kind of box
- The box can have as many compartments as we want, but we have to pick how many, once and for all

#### **Boxes Stretch**

The boxes stretch to fit any one thing in each slot:

Even other boxes:

Still, the number of slots is fixed

# Packing Boxes

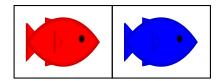
#### Suppose that

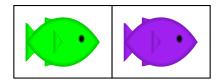
- You have four things to pack as one
- You only have 2-slot boxes
- Every slot must contain exactly one thing

How can you create a single package?

# Packing Boxes

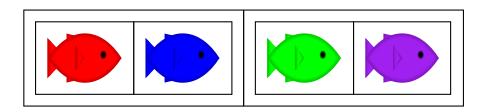
#### This isn't good enough





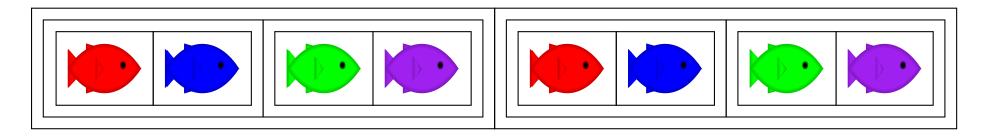
because it's still two boxes...

#### But this works!

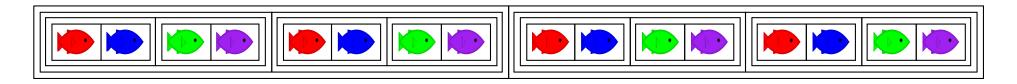


## Packing Boxes

#### And here's 8 fish:



#### And here's 16 fish!



But what if we just add I fish, instead of doubling the fish?

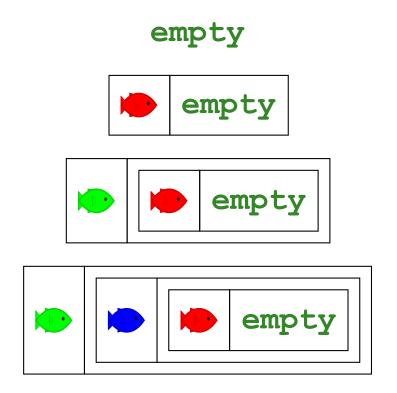
But what if we have 0 fish?

# General Strategy for Packing Boxes

Here's a general strategy:

- For 0 fish, use empty
- If you have a package and a new fish, put them together

To combine many fish, start with **empty** and add fish one at a time



## General Strategy for a List of Numbers

To represent the aquarium as a list of numbers, use the same idea:

- For 0 fish, use empty
- If you have a list and a number, put them together with make-bigger-list

```
empty

(make-bigger-list 10 empty)

(make-bigger-list 5 (make-bigger-list 10 empty))

(make-bigger-list 7 (make-bigger-list 5 (make-bigger-list 10 empty)))
```