

# Science Story Adventures



## Fish Parents

### Learning outcomes

» Students know that organisms reproduce offspring of their own kind and that the offspring resemble their parents and one another. (Grade 2 – Life Sciences)

» Students know the sequential stages of life cycles are different for different animals, such as butterflies, frogs, and mice. (Grade 2 –Life Sciences)

*From: California's Science Content Standards*

### Books we read

*Salmon Stream* by Carol Reed-Jones

*Mister Seahorse* by Eric Carle

### Activities we did

» Using salmon as an example, we showed the life cycle of fish with pictures.

» We watched a short video of Atlantic salmon swimming upstream, preparing a nest and spawning. (<http://www.arkive.org/atlantic-salmon/salmo-salar/video-09a.html>)

» We talked about male fish that help take care of their young, like seahorses.

» We examined sockeye salmon, seahorse and pipefish specimens.

### Today's craft: Seahorse Puppet



### You will need:

- » Father and baby seahorses template (included)
- » Scissors
- » Crayons or colored pencils
- » Scotch tape
- » Large craft stick

### Directions:

1. Color the father seahorse, pouch and baby seahorses. Draw eyes on the father and the babies.
2. Cut out the father seahorse, pouch and babies (cut an oval around each baby as they are rather fiddly to cut out precisely).
3. Stick the pouch on the father seahorse with tape, and pop the babies into it.
4. Tape the craft stick on the back of the father seahorse and make your seahorse swim.

# Want to find out more?

Here is a selection of further resources to explore in the Naturalist Center, in the public library or at home. Please ask if you can't find what you're looking for.

## Books

*If You Were a Fish* by S. J. Calder. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QL638 .C94 C36 1989

Find out what your life would be like if you were a goldfish.

*Life Cycle of a Salmon* by Angela Royston.

An introduction to the stages of life of salmon.

*The Life Cycle of a Shark* by John Crossingham and Bonnie Kalman. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QL638.9 .C767 2006

*El Ciclo de Vida del Tiburón* by John Crossingham and Bonnie Kalman. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QL638.9 .C767 2007\*

Follow the stages of life of sharks from birth to death. Includes information about why sharks are important to ocean ecosystems.

*Salmon Forest* by David Suzuki and Sarah Ellis. Nat. Ctr. Juv. PZ7 .S99 2003

A young girl and her father take a walk in the woods and while there the girl learns about the life cycle of salmon and salmon's importance in the forest ecosystem.

*Sea Horses* by Sally M. Walker. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QL638 .S9 W35 1999

Everything you ever wanted to know about seahorses, including how they live, what they eat and how they reproduce. Has many brilliant photos that complement the text.

## DVDs

*Life*. Nat. Ctr. Media QH501 .L55 2010

Disc 2 contains the episode, "Fish," which includes the mating dance of weedy sea dragons and the parental care of convict fish.

*What Makes a Fish a Fish?*

An award-winning film that introduces children to the many different kinds of fish found in our oceans.

## Websites

ARKIVE: Common Seahorse

An overview of the characteristics, behavior, habitat and ways to help protect this species of seahorse. Includes photos and video, as well as links to other species of seahorses.

<http://www.arkive.org/common-seahorse/hippocampus-kuda/>

National Geographic Animals: Sockeye Salmon

Basic information and photos of the third most abundant Pacific salmon. Also includes a link to a short video on the importance of salmon in forest ecosystems.

<http://animals.nationalgeographic.com/animals/fish/sockeye-salmon/>

The Salmon Life Cycle

This website created by the Washington State Department of Ecology outlines the life cycle of salmon.

[http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/pugetsound/species/salmon\\_cyc.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/pugetsound/species/salmon_cyc.html)

\*Libro en español

