

SALMON CROSSING



LESSON 1: 6 SPECIES OF PACIFIC NORTHWEST SALMON

[WATCH YOUTUBE INSTRUCTIONAL VIDEO](#)

Directions: Read through the list of 6 salmon species, choose a species to be & then design your salmon to what you would want to look like!

Pacific Northwest Salmon have **3** special words to describe their lifecycle, read through the descriptions to find out which salmon match the words below.

- **ANADROMOUS**: migrates to sea and returns to stream to spawn
- **SEMELPAROUS**: dies after spawning
- **ITEROPAROUS**: can migrate to sea, return and spawn multiple times

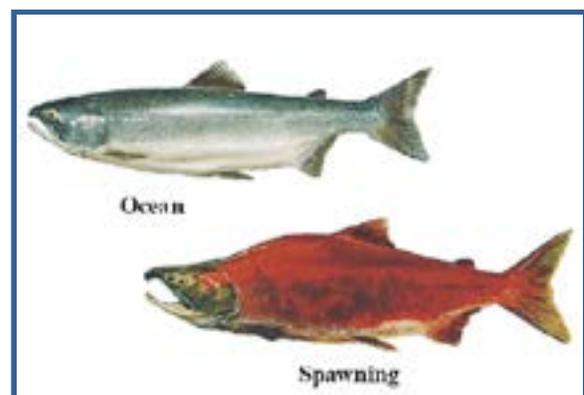
CHUM/DOG

- 3-5 years lifespan, are 21-31in in length, and weigh about 6.5-12.5lbs.
- They are the second largest salmon (following the Chinook)
- They are the most widely distributed population and have the greatest biomass.
- When in the ocean; they are metallic, greenish-blue along the back with black speckles which closely resemble sockeye and coho.
- During the spawning phase; males get vertical bars in reds, greens, and purples, while females get a black horizontal stripe.



SOCKEYE/KOKANEE

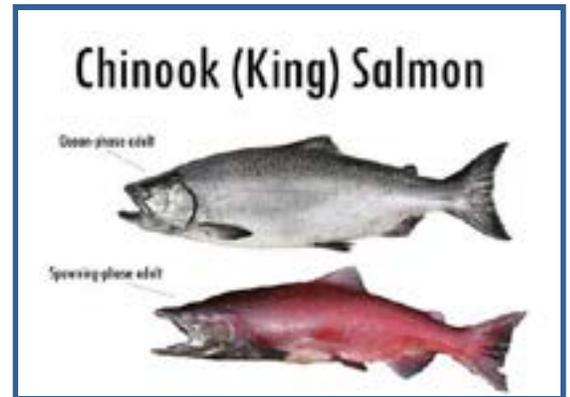
- 2-6 year lifespan, are about 21-26in in length, and weigh about 4-7lbs.
- The most important commercial species
- They have the greatest life history diversity and can spend anywhere from 3 months to 3 years in freshwater.
- While in the ocean; they are greenish blue on top of the head and back, silvery on the sides, and white to silver on the belly.
- During the spawning phase; the head and caudal fin become bright green and the body turns scarlet.



Lesson 1: PNW Salmon Species

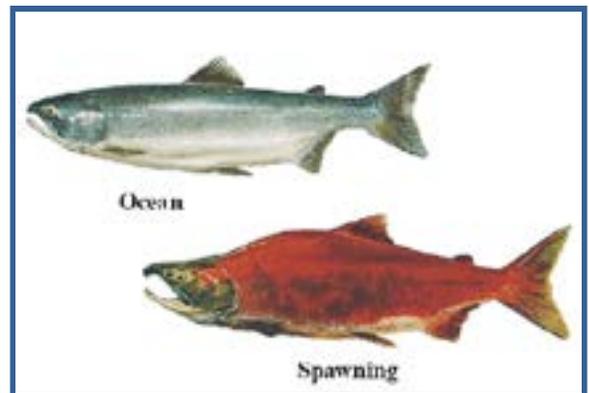
● CHINOOK/KING

- live about 3-6 years, are 28-40in in length, and weigh about 10-30 lbs.
- They are the largest, but least abundant salmon.
- The name Chinook came from the native peoples of the Columbia River and is considered a proper name and thus is always capitalized.
- When in the ocean they have bluish-green backs and silver sides with irregular spotting on the back, dorsal fin, and both lobes of the tail. Another distinguishing characteristic is their black gum line.
- Spawning colors are olive brown to dark brown in color. Males also develop a hooked snout.



COHO/SILVER

- 3-5 year lifespan, are about 24-28in in length, and weigh about 5-10 lbs.
- One of the most commercially sought after species, but they make up only 7-10% of the commercial salmon fishery.
- Usually travel less than 100 miles from the mouth of their stream for reproduction with the exception of a few populations that do travel over a thousand miles.
- While in the ocean; Coho have dark metallic blue or greenish backs with silver sides and a light belly. They have small black spots on their backs and the upper lobe of the tail. Another distinguishing feature is their gum line which is white
- Spawning colors are dark with reddish coloration on their sides.



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PINK/HUMPY

- 2 year lifespan, are about 18-24in in length, and weigh about 3-5 lbs.
- The smallest of the species but are the most abundant in number.
- Spend the least amount of time in freshwater, spawning in two year cycles very close to the mouth of streams with little to no upstream migration.
- While in the ocean; they appear to have steel blue to blue green backs, silver sides, and a white belly with large oval spots covering their back, adipose fin and both lobes of the caudal fin.
- During the spawning phase, pinks have dark backs with a pinkish wash and green blotches on their sides.



STEELHEAD/TROUT

- 1-4 year lifespan, about 20-30 inches in length, and weigh about 5-20 lbs.
- They differ from other salmon species in that they can return multiple times to spawn.
- They are characterized by their metallic blue backs and silvery sides, and black spots on the back, dorsal and caudal fins.
- Spawning colors are darker with males having a pink or red band on the sides.
- They do not have a red dash under the lower jaw which distinguishes steelhead from coastal cutthroat.



Lesson 1: PNW Salmon Species

TEST OUT YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Watch the video explaining how to play and then test your skills and others on the names of the PNW Salmon!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yPbiQRz0Le4&feature=youtu.be>



Lesson 1: PNW Salmon Species

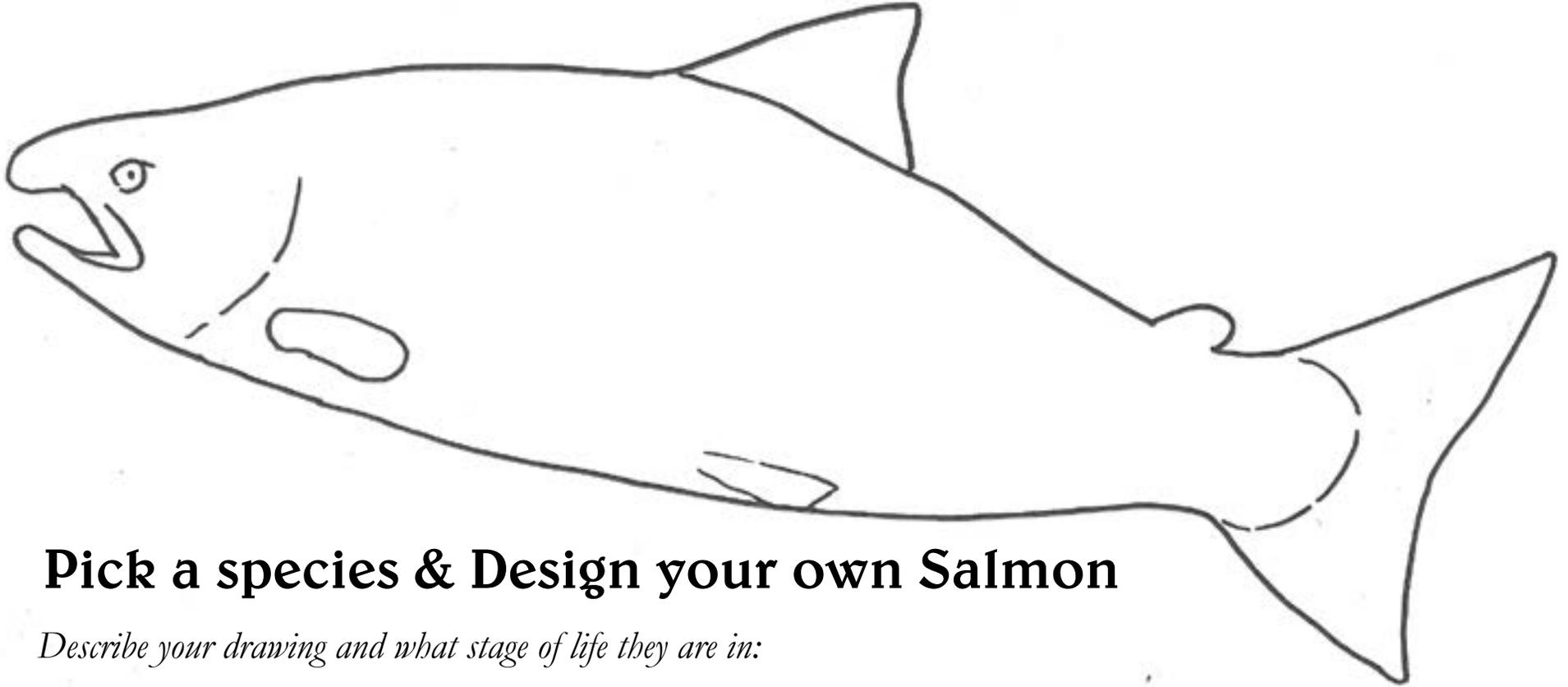
NOTES:

Salmon Crossing

Name: _____

Age: _____

Location: _____



Pick a species & Design your own Salmon

Describe your drawing and what stage of life they are in:
