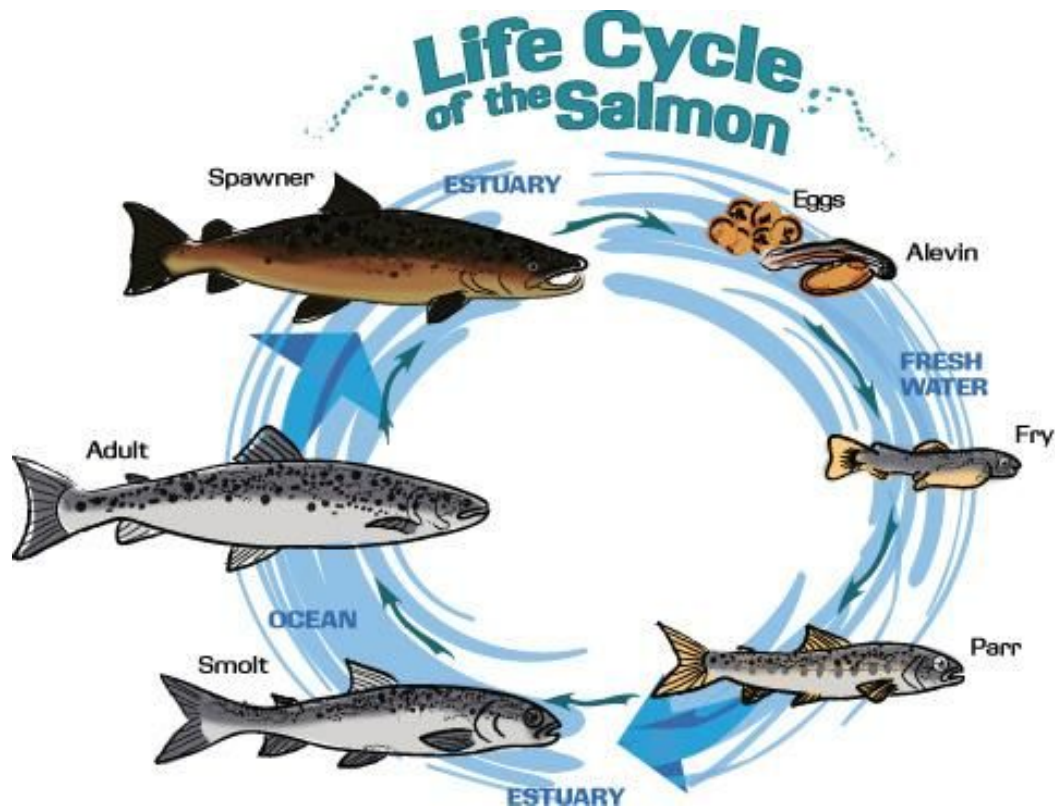


SALMON CROSSING

LESSON 2: HABITAT and LIFE CYCLE of PNW SALMON



Pacific Northwest Salmon live through 3 different habitats throughout their lifetime as shown in the diagram below.



Directions: Use the lifecycle model below to decide which habitat you would like to live in during which stage of your salmon life! Then, use the habitat description to help you choose materials around you to simulate the habitats salmon live in; river, estuary, ocean, or all three.

Examples: Blankets or grass for water, twigs and rock or chairs for bulky items under water, stuffed animals for other salmon, etc.

Lesson 2: Habitats and Life Cycle of PNW Salmon



River: A large natural stream of freshwater flowing in a channel to the sea, a lake, or another such stream. Salmon live here during their first and last stages of life: the egg, alevin, fry, parr, and then return here as a spawning adult salmon!



Estuary: The tidal mouth of a large river, where the ocean meets the river and the salt water mixes with the freshwater. Salmon live here as they transition from a parr into a smolt so they can adjust their body to the salt intake before diving straight into the salt-filled ocean.



Ocean: A very large expanse of sea, in particular each of the main areas into which the sea is divided geographically. Salmon live in the ocean for most of their lives and travel all over the world while in it. They can spend up to 4 years eating and growing strong in the ocean before returning to the river to spawn.

