Bears and Salmon-

Hidden Objects Puzzle - Created by Sara Theuerkauf

These bears are happily eating the salmon in the river. Sadly, a couple of months ago some people camped beside the river, leaving a lot of trash behind. Hidden in the picture is all the garbage they left (*shown down the left side of the page.*) Can you find everything? (Look for the solution at https://www.naturekids.bc.ca/)

Chip Bags (1)

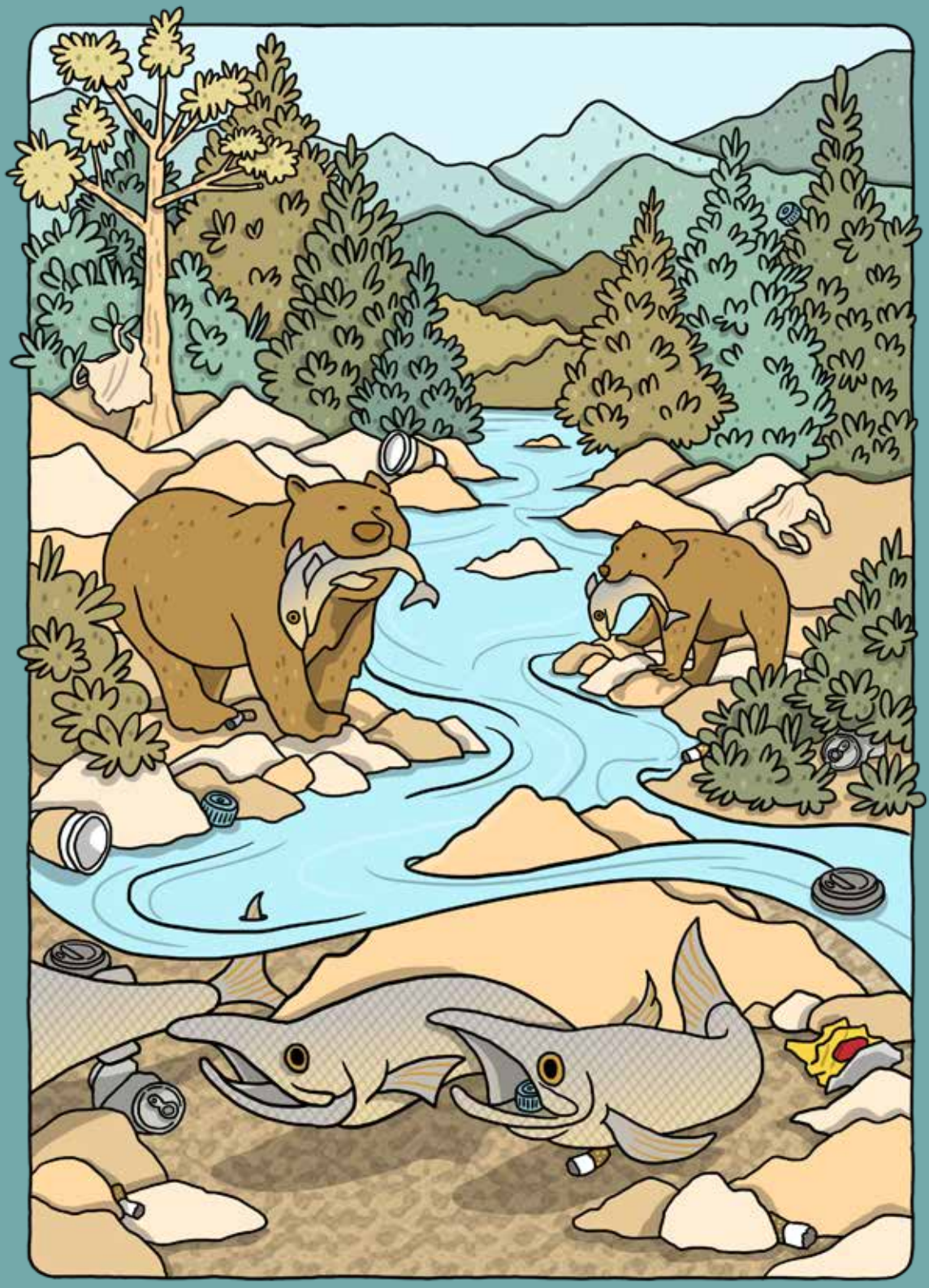
Plastic Bags (2)

Pop Cans (2)

Coffee Cups (2) & Lids (2)

Bottle Caps (3)

Cigarette Butts (5)



Salmon Art: Recycled Salmon (made from recycled Newspapers)

What you'll need:

- Newspaper (whole and shredded)
- Wax Crayons or Oil Pastels
- Salmon Image
- Utility candle stubs
- Tempera Paint in green, red, black
- Stapler
- Scissors
- Googly Eyes (optional but very fun!)

Take one full sheet of large format newspaper (e.g. Globe & Mail, Vancouver Sun) and fold it in half vertically. Now you have the perfect proportions for a good-sized adult salmon. Look at a poster or real salmon or image on the computer and observe closely how many fins a salmon actually has, taking note of the shape. Start at the nose and touch all sides of the folded paper while you draw the outline of your fish in black crayon. Press lightly at first and as you get the proportions that are satisfactory press heavily to define the outline. Use a variety of wax crayons to define the darker markings and have fun pressing hard to show the scales. Using white utility candle stubs to draw the scales will give a very interesting texture. When you are finished take a wash (tempera paint diluted with water so that it is transparent) in red, green or black and lightly brush over the newspaper fish. Cut it out and make more. You can staple around the cut out fish and stuff them with the newspaper clippings or shredded paper from the office shredder. Display on a bulletin board making sure to overlap the fish as they swim upstream!

Spawner Come Home

How does a spawning salmon find its way back home after 3 to 5 years? It smells its way back. Try this fun activity to see whether you can make it to your home creek.

Time: 10 minutes **Ages:** all **Materials:** film canisters with four different scents

Introduce the activity by asking the group how they think salmon find their way back to their home river to spawn - road maps? Landmarks? Gyroscopes? Salmon rely on water temperature and the earth's magnetic field to find their way to the right part of the coast, but they use smell to find the right river. Designate four players to be home rivers - they do not move. The rest are spawners who must find their home creek by moving (swimming) from river to river to find their home by smell.

Give each 'river' a film canister with a different scent extract (e.g. cherry, lemon, peppermint or coconut extract). Give the rest of the players a film canister at random. This represents the smell they remember from when they were fry in the river. Everyone should use their sense of smell to determine their home river by taking the lid off their canister and sniffing and comparing it to the canisters of the different 'rivers' to find the right one. As soon as they find it, have them stay together until all the salmon find their home river.

Finish by asking the participants what might affect the salmon's ability to recognize their home stream. Discuss how environmental pollution might affect these animals.

Thanks to Metro Vancouver Regional Parks for this activity

Photo credits: background: jessicahyde, istockphotos.com

Stream Assessment

Find out if your local stream is healthy and provides good habitat for salmon _____

Name of stream or lake

The stream or lake bed habitat checklist:

- ❒ clean gravel
- ❒ clean flowing water
- ❒ does not dry up
- ❒ not blocked by waterfalls
- ❒ vegetation on its banks
- ❒ signs of aquatic life (e.g. insects, fish, birds, animals)
- ❒ not damaged by people
- ❒ cared for by people

Water temperature: _____°C

Clarity of water:
❒ Clear ❒ Cloudy ❒ Silty ❒ Muddy ❒ Brown

Stream or lake flow:
❒ Flat and calm ❒ Moving quickly ❒ Mix of calm and moving water

Stream depth (measure or guess visually): _____

Stream or lake bottom:
❒ Boulders (30 cm across or larger) ❒ Cobble (rock pieces 10 to 30 cm across)
❒ Gravel (rock pieces 1 to 10 cm across) ❒ Sand ❒ Mud

Describe the stream bank (e.g. steep, eroding): _____

Plant Life along the Bank:
❒ Tall trees ❒ Low Bushes ❒ Overhanging Bushes ❒ Ferns ❒ Grass ❒ None

Insects you can see:
❒ Ground level ❒ On plants ❒ Airborne ❒ In water or on surface

Numbers: _____ Types: _____

❒ Garbage ❒ No Garbage - Describe any evidence of harmful human activity: _____

_____

_____

What could be done to make the stream or lake a better habitat for salmon? _____

_____

_____

_____

Adapted from Salmonids in the Classroom, Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Photo credits: background: artisteer, istockphotos.com

Salmon Rivers in B.C.

Some of the world's most important salmon rivers are in British Columbia. They are the **STIKINE, LIARD, NASS, SKEENA, PEACE, FRASER, THOMPSON, ADAMS,** and **COLUMBIA.** Do you know where these rivers are? Unscramble the names and find out!

We have given you some hints!

#1 _ _ _ _ _

#2 S _ _ K _ _ _

#3 _ _ _ _

#4 _ _ _ _ E

#5 _ _ _ _ _ A

#6 _ _ _ _ E _

#7 _ _ _ _ P _ _ _

#8 _ _ _ _ _

#9 _ O _ _ _ _ I _

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