

Let's Catch Fish!

CHAPERONE BOOKLET

Help your small group of students **identify** and **observe** fish found in the Aquarium.

Since looking at the shape of a fish helps to identify it, use the **silhouettes** to find an example of each fish shape on the student worksheet. The Habitats tell you in which exhibit area you'll find each fish. As you discover the featured fish, track your group's progress by putting a check in each circle.

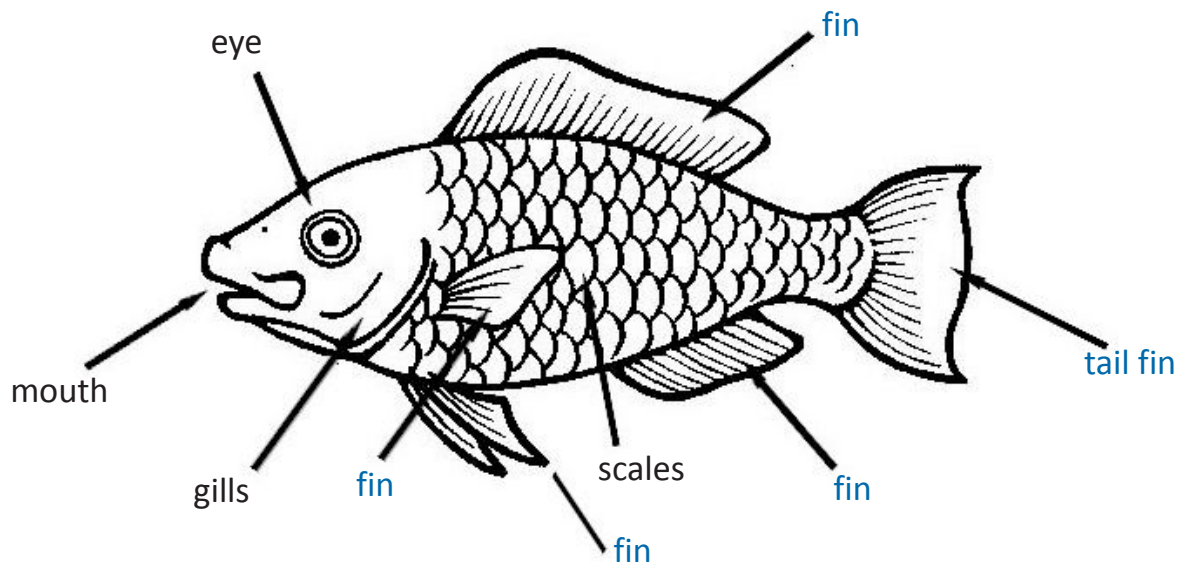
When you find each fish, stop to observe its **behavior** and **body parts**. Help students learn more about **how fishes' bodies are adapted to where they live** using the questions on the next page (or your own!).



Aquarium Map Lower Level

For each fish that you find:

Point out body parts and note their **location** and **size**.



Hint: To point out fish parts, we suggest starting with the first fish on the worksheet, the Gar fish in the Swamp. This fish is very large and moves very slowly.

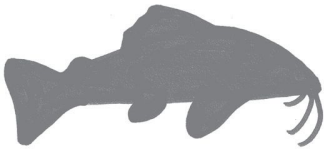
QUESTIONS

Gar



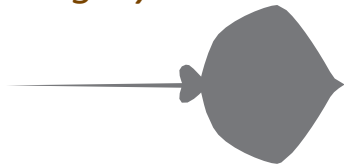
- » How many fins does this fish have? Don't forget to count each of the paired fins! (*Including the tail, there are 7 fins*).
- » What is the shape of this fish's tail? (*Rounded. Fish with rounded tails usually swim slowly*).

Catfish



- » How many barbels (whiskers) does this fish have? What do you think they are used for? (*There are 6 to 8 barbels, they are used to help the fish find food and objects in murky water*).
- » Look at its mouth. How do you think this fish eats? (*Catfish have a mouth shaped like a suction cup. Catfish usually feed through suction or gulping rather than biting*).

Stingray



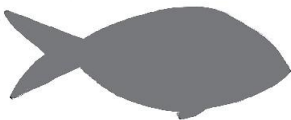
- » How does this fish swim? Ask the students to show you!
- » Where is this fish's mouth? (*The mouth is located on the underside of its body because it searches for food buried in the sand beneath it*).

Garibaldi



- » Why is this fish so compressed and flat? (*Fish this shape are able to maneuver well and can get into thin or tight crevices. The Garibaldi is California's state fish!*).
- » Are there places this fish could hide? (*This fish could hide in the rock formations and amongst the kelp*).

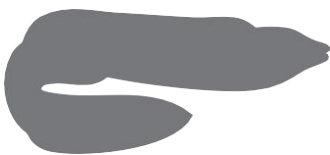
Fusilier



- » What is the shape of the fish's tail? (*Forked. Fish with forked tails can swim fast. The more forked the tail, the faster they can swim*).
- » Do any of the other fish in the tank have tails with the same shape? (*Small purple fish, etc.*).

Note: The species you'll see is **blue** with a **yellow** streak along its back.

Eel



- » How does this fish swim? Ask the students to show you!
- » Is this different from how you've seen other fish swim? (*Yes, it's moving its body like a snake, while other fish mostly use their fins or tail*).