

Worksheet: Where Do Fish Live in the Hudson?

Many kinds of fish live in the Hudson. However, not all of these fish live everywhere in the river. People live in different sorts of communities, and so do fish. Some like salty water; others like fresh. Some prefer to live among plants; others prefer open water.

On Hudson Estuary Snapshot Day each fall, students catch fish at many places along the river. Then they compare results to see where different kinds of fish live. The location of each place is given in Hudson River Miles. River Mile 0 is in New York City. Going north towards Albany, the mile numbers get higher. Yonkers is at Hudson River Mile 18. Beacon is at Hudson River Mile 61.

Seine nets can be used to catch fish in shallow water.



These fish were caught at Green Island, Hudson River Mile 152.



The white perch is often caught in seine nets.



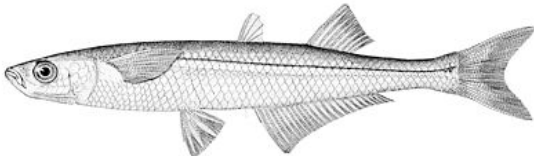
This table shows fish catches from 2006. Use it to answer questions 1-3 below.

Hudson River Fish Caught on October 12, 2006

Hudson River Mile	14	18	25	28	41	61	85	97	102	115	124	Totals
spottail shiner			1			1	6	23	2	11		44
mummichog	365											365
Atlantic silverside	1	5	87	21	1							115
white perch	1	3	13		3	5	1	3		8	3	40
striped bass		1	15		17	6	1	3	8	1	1	53
pumpkinseed						1	29		1	2		33
smallmouth bass						2	1					3
tessellated darter							1	1	2	10		14

- Which fish was caught in greatest numbers on October 12, 2006?
- Which two fish were caught in the most places on October 12?
- In the Hudson River estuary, the water near the ocean is salty. Upstream, the water is fresh. The leading edge of seawater entering the river is called the salt front. On this day, the salt front was at Hudson River Mile 53. Look at where each of these fish was found. Does it live in fresh water or in salt water?

(a) Atlantic silverside



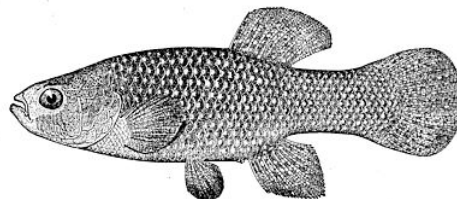
(b) tessellated darter



(c) pumpkinseed



(d) mummichog



4. The students found mummichogs in only one place: Inwood Hill Park in Manhattan (Hudson River Mile 14). Only a few miles away, in Yonkers and Alpine (Hudson River Mile 18), students did not find mummichogs. Below are pictures of each place. Why were mummichogs caught only at Inwood?



*Inwood Hill Park,
Manhattan*



Alpine



Yonkers

Species	Average yearly catch
spottail shiner	6
mummichog	267
Atlantic silverside	52
white perch	5
striped bass	4
pumpkinseed	3
smallmouth bass	1
tessellated darter	3

5. This table shows the average catch per year of each fish, including all Hudson Estuary Snapshot Days. Based on this table, answer the questions below.

(a) Which fish is most likely to live in schools?

(b) Which fish is least likely to live in schools?

(c) Which is more likely to travel in schools—the Atlantic silverside or the tessellated darter?

