Halibut. Salmon. Lamprey. Rockfish. And more!

15 Awesome Alaska Fish

A Fun Fact Coloring Book.
Can you name each fish?:

[Images of fish drawings]

[Blank lines for naming the fish]
External Anatomy:

- Dorsal fin
- Pectoral fins
- Pelvic fins
- Caudal fin (tail)
- Anal fin
- Adipose fin
- Lateral line
- Gill plate (operculum)
Arctic grayling live in streams and lakes. They have a really big fin on their back! Grayling eat small bugs, salmon eggs and even small fish. They are fun to catch with your fishing pole!

Fun Fact: Grayling are often called the sail-fin of the north. Can you guess why?
Black rockfish live in the ocean where the water is salty. You can find them swimming with other rockfish in groups called schools. To catch a black rockfish, you usually have to be in a boat!

Fun Fact: Black rockfish can live up to 30 years. Have you ever caught a rockfish?
Lingcod

To fish for lingcod you need to be in the ocean, and around big rocks! When a lingcod opens its mouth to bite your bait, you will see lots of big teeth. Some lingcod can be bigger than kids!

Fun Fact: The state record lingcod weighed over 82 pounds. Can you lift 82 pounds?
If you see an eel-like fish swimming around in a river or lake, you have probably spotted a lamprey. Sometimes, lamprey live in the ocean too! Many people in Alaska catch and eat lamprey.

Fun Fact: Lamprey can attach their mouth to other fish. Would you ever kiss a fish?
A sheefish is a really big fish that lives in northern Alaska streams and rivers. They can sometimes weigh as much as 60 pounds! You will need a big fishing pole to catch one of these fish.

Fun Fact: Sheefish are also known as inconnu (in-con-o0). Have you ever seen a sheefish?
If you want to see a round whitefish, you will need to look in rivers and lakes. They like to eat small bugs and other small things because their mouths are small! Some people like to catch and eat them for dinner.

Fun Fact: Round whitefish have an olive-brown back with light silvery sides. What is your favorite color of fish?
Northern pike

When looking for northern pike you need to look for weeds in the water. Pike like weeds because they can hide in them. Do not put your fingers in their mouths because they have big teeth! Fishing for pike is fun but hang on tight to your fishing pole!

Fun Fact: Northern pike have a lot of teeth. If they ever lose a tooth, another one grows in its place. Have you ever lost a tooth?
Lake trout like to live in lakes that are really deep and cold. Some lake trout might be as old as your grandparents! They like to eat anything that can fit into their mouths, even small birds! Lake trout are fun to catch and taste really good!

Fun Fact: The largest lake trout ever caught on rod and reel weighed 72 pounds! What is the largest fish you have ever caught?
Rainbow trout

Did you know you can see a rainbow swimming in a river or lake? A rainbow trout that is! They have beautiful colors on their sides that look like a rainbow. If you go fishing in many Alaska lakes, you might catch a rainbow trout!

Fun Fact: Rainbow trout that swim out to the ocean are called "steelhead" trout. Have you ever swam in the ocean?
A halibut is a fish that is flat and lives on the bottom of the ocean. Do not be scared when you see both of their eyes on the same side of their head!! Lots of people in Alaska go fishing for halibut. They make a yummy dinner!

Fun Fact: Halibut can grow to be more than 400 pounds! Can you name something else that weighs more than 400 pounds?
Did you know that a fish can have a whisker? Burbot have a small whisker, also called a barbel that hangs below its bottom lip. They can actually find food using this whisker! Most people catch these fish when ice fishing. Eating a burbot is a great way to warm up after ice fishing!

Fun Fact: Burbot are bottom feeders and eat live and dead fish. What is your favorite type of fish to eat?
When you are fishing in the ocean you might catch a yelloweye rockfish. Yelloweye rockfish have a big yellow eye and bright orange scales and skin. Yelloweye are easy to catch from a boat.

Be sure and wear your lifejacket!

Fun Fact: Some yelloweye rockfish can live to be more than 100 years old! How old is the oldest person you know?
Dolly Varden live in streams and lakes and sometimes in the ocean. They can be colorful with pink and green spots on their sides. People go fishing for Dolly Varden when salmon are laying their eggs.

Fun Fact: The name Dolly Varden comes from a character in the Charles Dickens novel, Barnaby Rudge. What is your favorite character from a book?
Quillback rockfish live at the bottom of the ocean near rocks. They have very sharp fins called spines on their backs. If you catch one, be careful where you touch it! Rockfish are really good to eat.

Fun Fact: Quillback rockfish have large, sharp spines on their dorsal fin. Can you think of another animal with sharp spines on its body?
Chinook salmon can also be called king salmon. They are called kings because they are the biggest salmon! They hatch from eggs in rivers and then go to the ocean to eat. If you catch a king you better hang on to your fishing pole because they are really strong!

Fun Fact: The largest Chinook salmon ever caught on rod and reel weighed over 97 pounds. Have you ever caught a Chinook salmon?
What's your favorite Alaska fish? If your favorite Alaska fish is not in this book, use this space to draw it in its habitat.

We hope you share your work with others. Ask an adult to take a picture of one of your favorite pages and post it to social media using #wefishakcoloringbook. Now let's go fishing!
Does Your Family Like Fishing Together?

Take the Five Salmon Family Challenge!

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