

Lesson 4: Fish identification and invasive species activity

Fish ID

Instructions: Below you will see a list of fish species names and photos. Using these options, read the descriptions on the following page and match the species.

Name and photo:



Lake Trout



Largemouth Bass



Muskellunge



Brown Bullhead



Smallmouth Bass



Pumpkinseed



Yellow Perch



Round Goby



Walleye



Bluegill



Northern Pike



Brook Trout



Rock Bass

Descriptions:

1. Medium-sized, deep-bodied fish. Green to olive back and sides. Body often has dark vertical broken bars. Shallow notch between dorsal fins. Upper jaw does not extend beyond eye. Length: 25-50 cm (10-20 in).
2. Small and very deep-bodied. Back and upper sides are brown to olive, with golden tints, often with dark saddles. Adults have regular rows of spots along the side. Large, red eye. Mouth is large and extends backwards to below the middle of the eye. Length: 15-20 cm (6-8 in).
3. Very large, elongated body. Dark green to brown body with light, yellowish or white spots. Dark back fades to creamy white belly. Tips of tail fin rounded. Length: 45-75 cm (18-30 in).
4. Small, very deep-bodied fish. Wavy, blue-green stripes on sides of head. Ear flap with orange or red spot. Unnotched dorsal fin. Small mouth does not extend to below the middle of the eye. Length: 18-23 cm (7-9 in).
5. Small, elongated fish. Green to black body. Large, frog-like eyes on top of their head. Black spot on dorsal fin. Pelvic fins fused together. Length: 7.5-12.5 cm (3-5 in).
6. Very large, elongated fish (second largest in Ontario). Dark vertical bands on light background, at times spotted or clear. Green-gold, brown, grey or silver back. Tips of tail fin very pointed. Length: 71-137 cm (28-40 in).
7. Medium-sized, deep-bodied fish. Back and sides are green to olive. Broken horizontal stripe along body. Deep notch between dorsal fins. Upper jaw extends beyond eye. Length: 25-55 cm (10-22 in).
8. Medium, elongated body. Green, grey, brown or almost black back, with lighter sides and a white belly. Light wormlike markings and spots on dark background, none are red. Deeply forked tail. Length: 30-80 cm (12-31 in).
9. Medium, elongated body. Back is olive-green, brown or black; belly is silvery or white. Light wormlike markings and spots on dark background, some red and blue. Square tail. Mouth extends backwards to well beyond the eye. Length: 15-40 cm (6-16 in).

10. Small, very deep-bodied fish. Back and sides are green to brown with faint, dark bars. Black ear flap with no pale edge. Unnotched dorsal fin with 10 to 11 spines. Small mouth – ends before the middle of the eye. Length: 15-22.5 cm (6-9 in)
11. Light yellow body with 6 to 8 dark, vertical bands on sides. Two separate dorsal fins. Large mouth, extending to below the middle of the eye. Length: 15-30 cm (6-12 in).
12. Large, elongated fish. Back is olive-green to brown; sides paler with yellow flecks. White tip on lower tail fin. Spiny and soft dorsal fins separated. Large mouth extends below back edge of eye. Large teeth and cloudy, pearlescent eyes. Length: 35.5–58.4 cm (14-23 in).
13. Square tail, no scales. Big barbels (“whiskers”) near their mouth and sharp spines behind the gills. Length: 20-36 cm (8-14 in).