All about Salmon!

**Ages:** Grades 3-8  **Time:** 1 hour

**No. of participants:** 8-12 **No. of additional adults:** none necessary

**Required supplies:**

* Book *Salmon Stream* by Carol Reed-Jones
* Salmon activity packet
* Pencils
* Crayons
* Salmon life stage viles
* Salmon Stages poster
* Salmon board game (The Incredible Journey)
  + Dice
  + Game pieces – beads
* Salmon of the Pacific Coast Brochures

**Objective:** To learn about and act out the life stages of salmon. To find out ways that people can and do help salmon survive long enough to spawn.

# Activity Instructions

1. *Introduction:*
   1. Begin by asking the students to introduce themselves and tell one thing they know about salmon.
2. *Beginning Instructions*:
   1. Read *Salmon Stream* by Carol Reed-Jones.
   2. Ask students what they learned from the book that hadn’t already been mentioned.
3. *Main Lesson:*
   1. Show the students the preserved life stages of the salmon and explain each stage.
      1. Stage 1 – Green
      2. Stage 2 – Eyed
      3. Stage 3 – Sack Fry
      4. Stage 4 – Swim Up
      5. Stage 5 – Button U

Beyond the preserved stages…

* + 1. Stage 6 – Smolt
    2. Stage 7 – Adult in the Ocean
    3. Stage 8 – Spawning
    4. Final stage – Dying
  1. Show students the Salmon Life stages poster. Explain, read and discuss.
  2. Hand out Salmon activity packets – have them flip to the back page “Salmon Story Problem”.
  3. Do the story problem together.
  4. Read about how we can help more salmon survive on the “Helping the Salmon” page.
  5. Allow time for students to divide into groups and play “The Incredible Journey” board game in groups of 4-6.

1. *Conclusion:*
   1. If there is any time remaining, students should work on the activities in their activity packets.
   2. Offer Salmon of the Pacific Coast brochures to students who are interested.
   3. Remind students that they can help make a difference regarding our local salmon population by doing simple things like picking up trash along stream banks, planting trees, and in general respecting stream habitats.