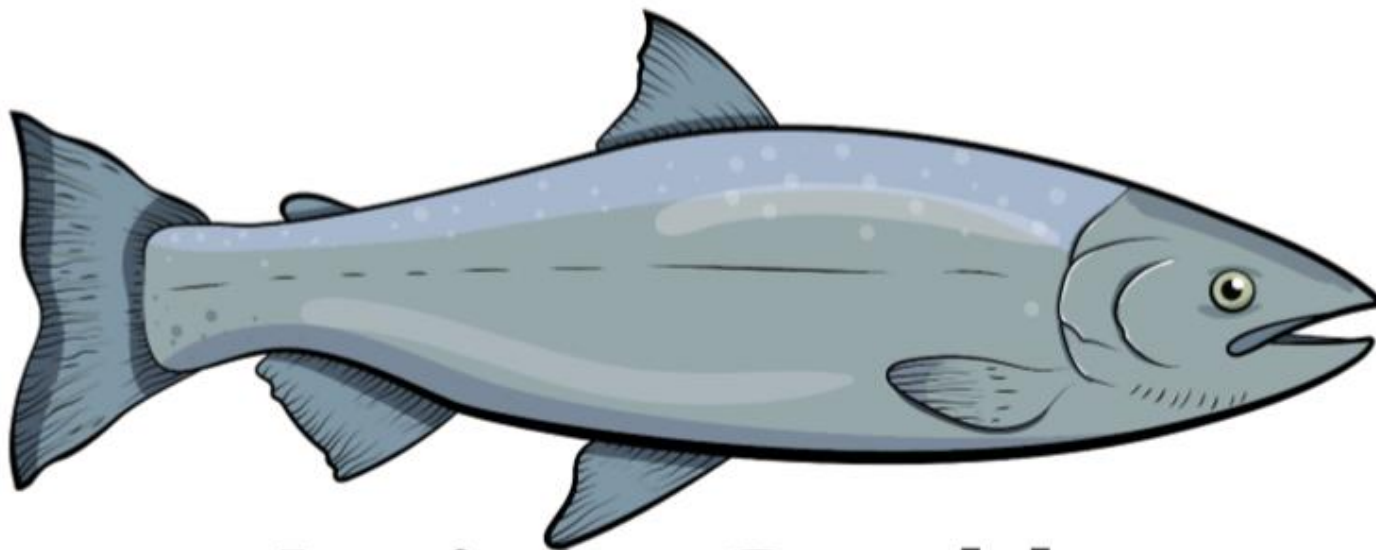


# Salmon in the Salish Sea



## Activity Booklet

This booklet belongs to \_\_\_\_\_





## The Salish Sea

is an important marine ecosystem located between Vancouver Island, British Columbia and Washington.

Water from the Pacific Ocean flows in and out of the Salish Sea each day when the tides change.

Many animals call the Salish Sea home.  
Can you help spell some of their names?



O \_ \_ A

S \_ A L \_ \_ N

S \_ L \_ O \_ \_

B \_ A \_ K B \_ \_ R

S \_ \_ \_ L

# All You Can Eat in an Estuary

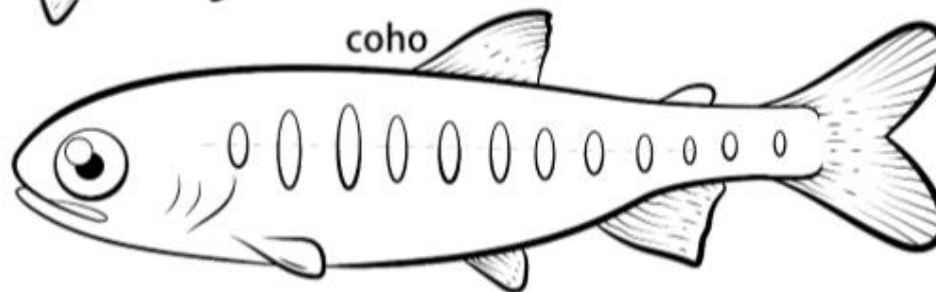
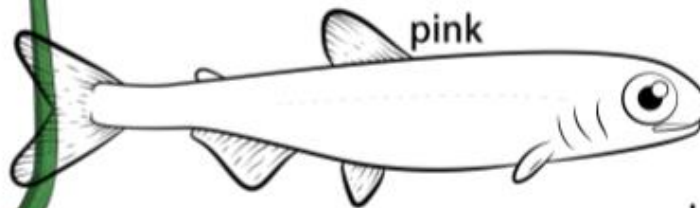
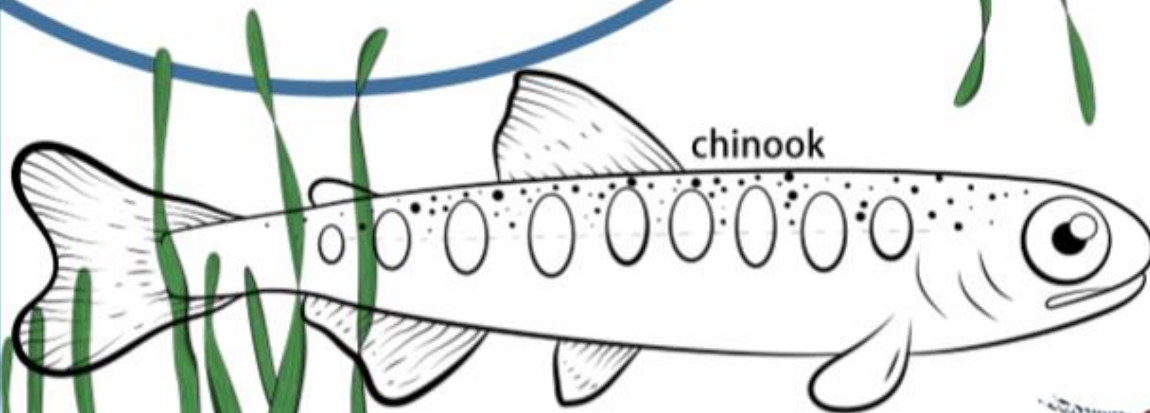
An estuary is where fresh water from rivers and salt water from the ocean meet and mix.

Estuaries are a great home for young salmon before they migrate to the ocean.



In the warm salty water tiny plankton grow.

They are food for small shrimp and crabs that are eaten by young salmon



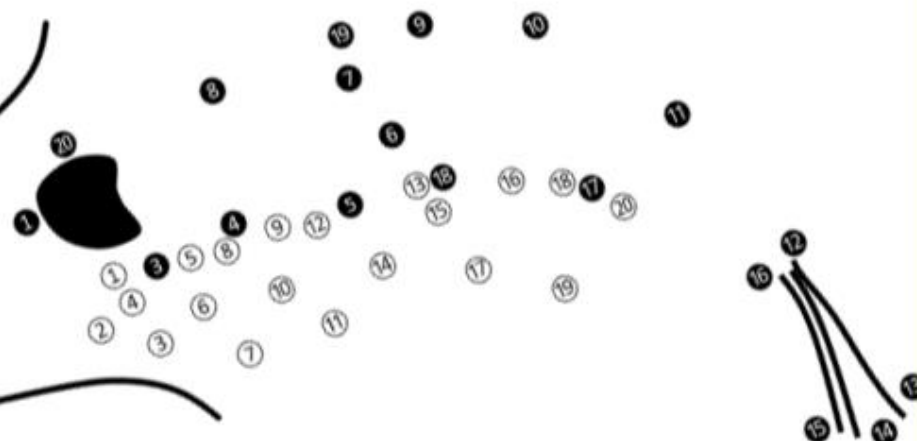


**Plankton are so small you might need  
a magnifying glass to see them.**

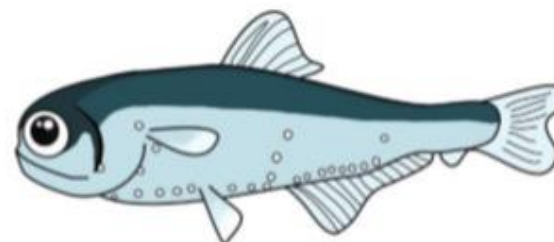
**Connect the dots to draw your own plankton**



**Baby crabs & baby shrimp  
are zooplankton  
that eat other plankton  
floating nearby**

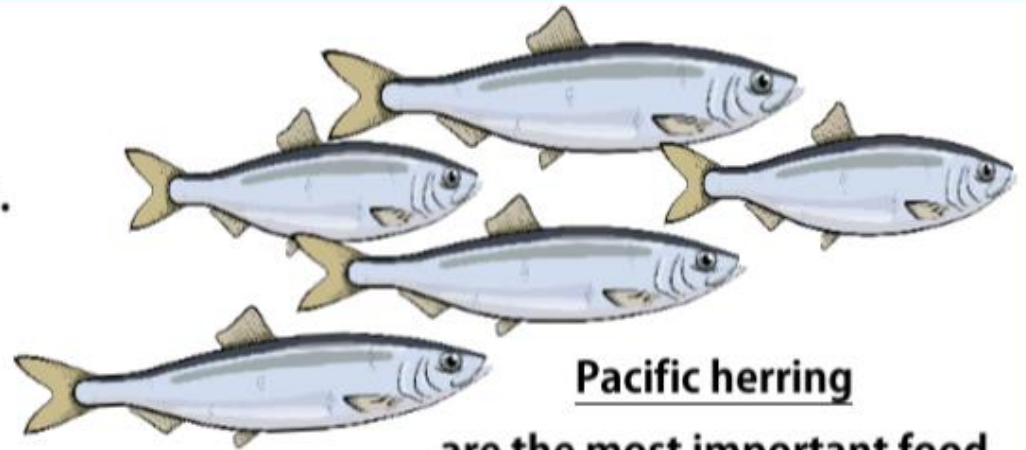


**In winter  
chinook in northern parts of the Salish  
Sea eat Pacific lantern fish**

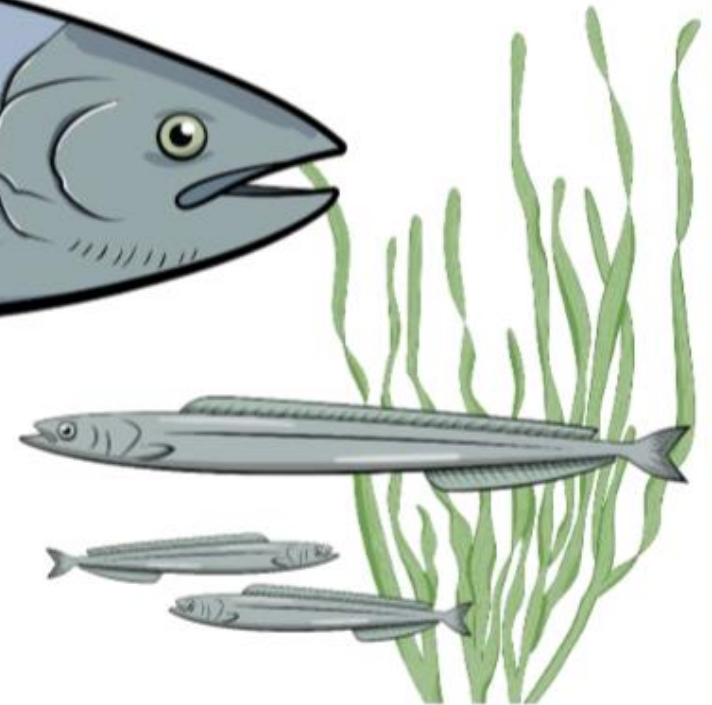


**Did you know?  
The spots on a lantern fish glow  
attracting plankton to eat.**

**Adult salmon in the Salish Sea  
are an important part of the diet of  
orca whales, sea lions, seals, and black bears.  
But what do the adult salmon eat?**



**Pacific herring  
are the most important food  
for chinook and coho salmon.**



**Did you know?**  
Chinook salmon grow  
bigger than other salmon.  
Orca whales depend on  
chinook salmon to feed  
their families.

**Adult salmon hunt sand lance fish hiding in eel grass beds.  
Sand lance are an important summer food for migrating salmon.**

# How to Feed an Orca

Fill in the blanks to feed the orca. Use the word bank to help you.

whales	small	plankton	sun
food	eat	hunt	



Everything starts with the \_\_\_\_\_

Shining on the waters surface  
where \_\_\_\_\_ live

Phytoplankton  
make \_\_\_\_\_ from  
the sun's energy

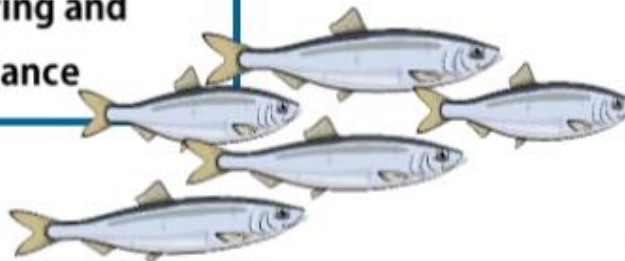
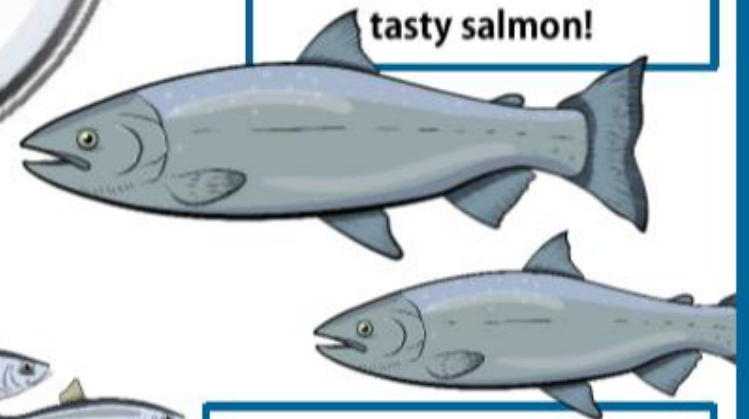
Zooplankton  
\_\_\_\_\_   
phytoplankton



They feed \_\_\_\_\_ fish  
like herring and  
sandlance

Southern resident  
killer \_\_\_\_\_ love  
tasty salmon!

Salmon love to \_\_\_\_\_  
herring and sandlance!

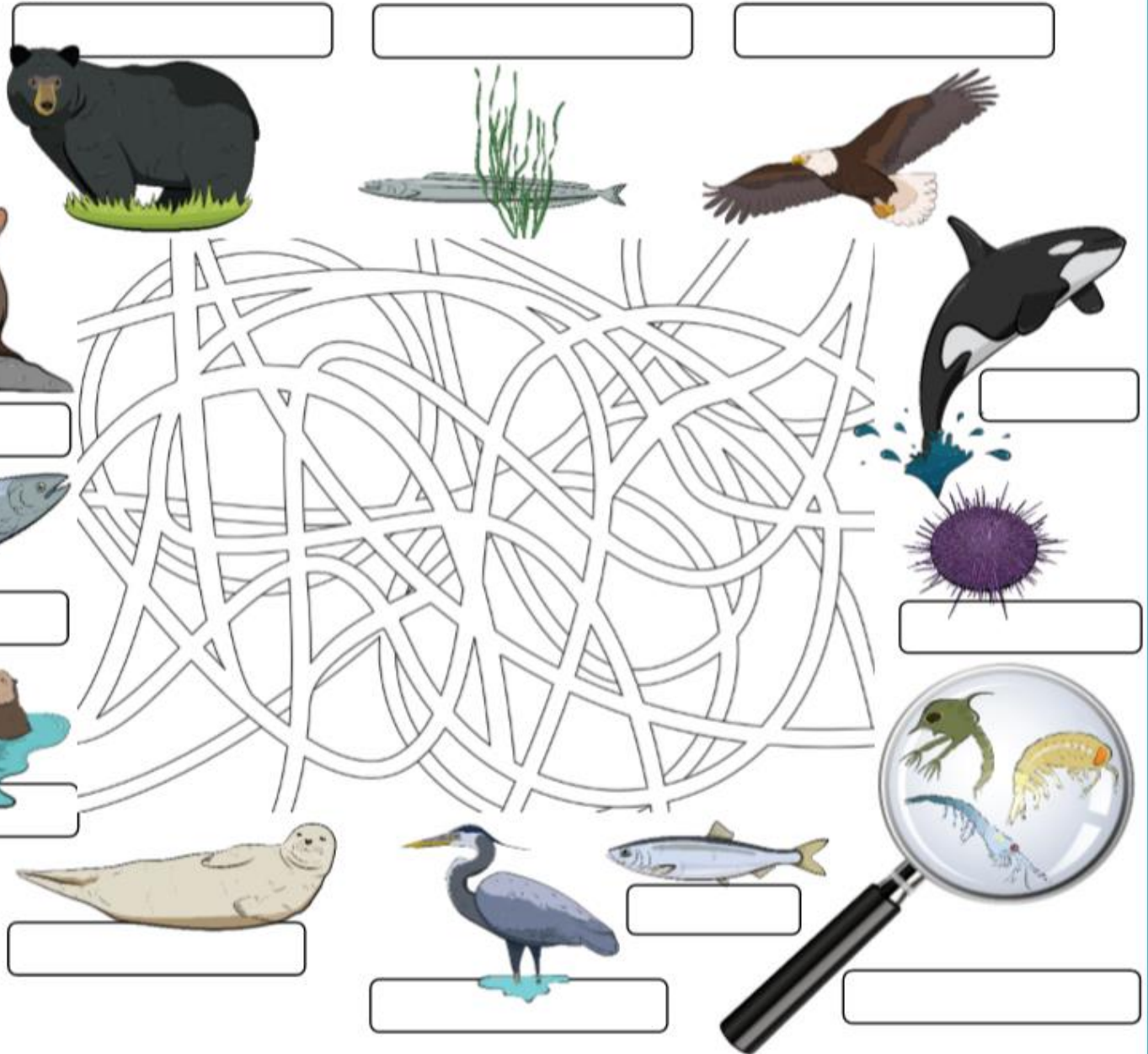




# Salish Sea Food Web

Can you name the animals and help them find their food?

- ☐ sea urchin
- ☐ microscopic zooplankton
- ☐ bald eagle
- ☐ sea lion
- ☐ salmon
- ☐ sea otter
- ☐ seal
- ☐ great-blue heron
- ☐ herring
- ☐ sand lance
- ☐ black bear
- ☐ orca





# The Salish Sea & Surrounding Basin

The Salish Sea extends from the north end of the Strait of Georgia to the south end of the Puget Sound and west to the mouth of the Strait of Juan de Fuca

<http://maps.stefanfreelan.com/salishsea>

stefan freelan - 2009



Data Sources:  
SRTM (CGIAR-CSI), NOAA,  
Wa. DFW, Wa. DNR,  
BC Digital Atlas, ESRI

