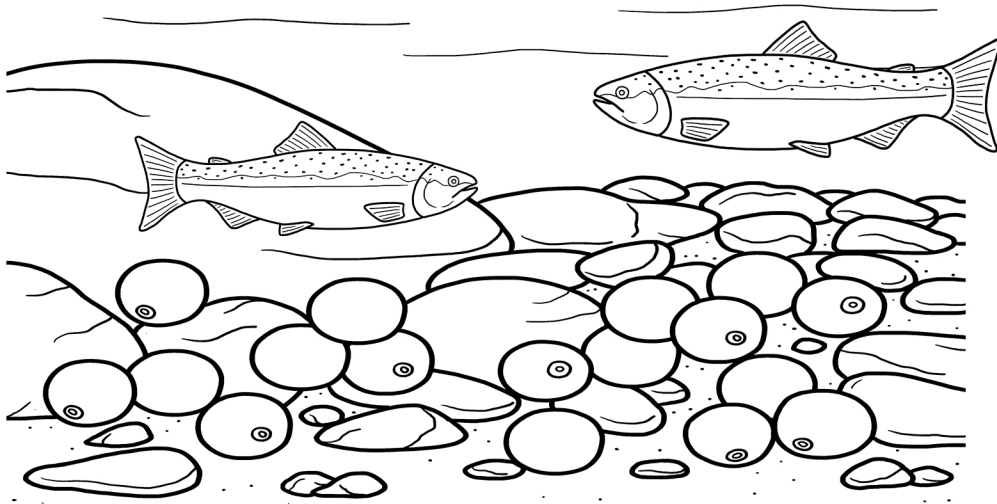


Name: _____

Date: _____

**Word Bank:**

camouflage
countershading
streamlined
kype

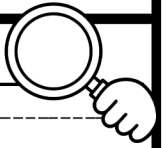
Salmon have special body features that help them survive in rivers and oceans. Their silvery color acts like camouflage, making it harder for predators to spot them in sunlit water. A salmon's back is usually darker than its belly. This pattern is called countershading. It helps hide the salmon from animals swimming above and below. Salmon also have a smooth, streamlined body shape. This shape helps them swim fast and use less energy while traveling long distances. Before salmon spawn, many of them build up fat reserves to fuel their journey. Some male salmon also grow a hooked jaw called a kype and change to bright spawning colors like red or green. These adaptations all help salmon survive their incredible journey.

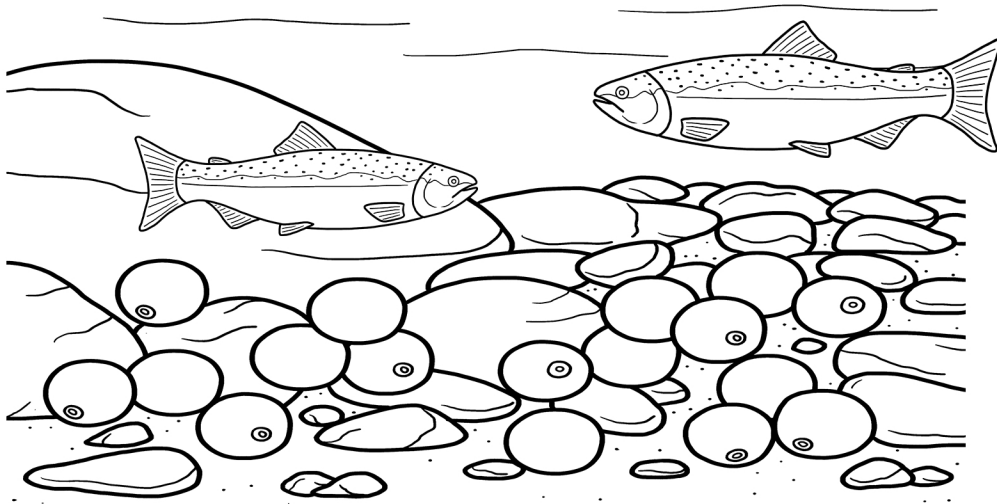
1. How does countershading help a salmon?

2. Why do salmon have a streamlined body shape?

3. What are fat reserves used for?

4. Name one adaptation that appears only in male salmon before spawning.



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Salmon have special body features that help them survive in rivers and oceans. Their silvery color acts like camouflage, making it harder for predators to spot them in sunlit water. A salmon's back is usually darker than its belly. This pattern is called countershading. It helps hide the salmon from animals swimming above and below. Salmon also have a smooth, streamlined body shape. This shape helps them swim fast and use less energy while traveling long distances. Before salmon spawn, many of them build up fat reserves to fuel their journey. Some male salmon also grow a hooked jaw called a kype and change to bright spawning colors like red or green. These adaptations all help salmon survive their incredible journey.

1. How does countershading help a salmon?

It helps hide the salmon from predators above and below.

2. Why do salmon have a streamlined body shape?

A streamlined body shape helps salmon swim fast and use less energy on long journeys.

3. What are fat reserves used for?

Fat reserves are extra fat a salmon stores in its body to fuel its long migration journey.

4. Name one adaptation that appears only in male salmon before spawning.

Kype (the hooked jaw that develops on some males before spawning).

