

Fashion a Fish

Fish have many different adaptations that help them survive in their environments. Their body and mouth shape help determine where they live, what they eat and how they hunt.

Study the various shapes and adaptations and learn about what they mean to the fish's survival.

Note: the colour and patterns on a fish helps it camouflage and may determine its habitat and its predators. A light bellied fish may be safer near the water's surface as a predator below will only see light... a dark or patterned dorsal side fish may be safer near the bottom as its predators looking down may not see it.

Now, design your own fish. Consider these questions: Where does it live? How does it move? What does it eat? How does it get its food? Is it a predatory fish or perhaps lower down on the food web? What animals are its predators? Where does the fish 'sit' on the food web?

Draw your fish. Name your fish & describe your fish.

Challenges/Extensions:

- build your fish (use papier mâché, clay or other materials),
- tell a story about your fish (ex. why or how it got its name)
- write a research paper about your fish,
- compare/contrast your fish to a 'real/living' fish,
- describe how your fish is best suited to its environment,
- discuss how you think your fish will do given the impacts of climate change on its specific habitat,
- contextualize your fish in taxonomy! Where might it 'fit'?

Materials for Fashion a Fish can be found on various websites including the Association for Fish & Wildlife, an American organization. On their site, they share some free printable Fish Adaptation Cards with high quality drawings (no login or sign up required to download): <https://bit.ly/40TcTSc>



A Fashion a Fish Lesson YouTube Video is available via Project Wild -

https://youtu.be/9IyzDXZImbo?si=FfX_6vHFDSWLWxwC

(View the Description on the Video to link to information and samples of a wide variety of Project Wild resources including "Aquatic Wild")



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