

Sturgeon Word Search!



Hint: Words can be backwards or upside down!

ACIPENSER – The Genus, or the first part of the sturgeon's scientific name *Acipenser fulvescens*.

AMPHIPODS – A small, shrimp-like invertebrate that sturgeon like to eat.

ANADROMOUS - Migrating up river to spawn.

BARBELS – The sensory organs on a sturgeon's nose.

BENTHIC – To live on the bottom of the river or lake.

CARTILAGE – What most of a sturgeon's skeleton is made of, like a shark.

CAVIAR - Sturgeon eggs that people like to eat.

CHIRONOMIDS – Also known as midges, these wormlike creatures are sturgeon food.

DORSAL FIN – The fin on top of the sturgeon.

EGGS – A female sturgeon can lay up to 700,000 eggs in a season! Eggs hatch in 5-8 days.

FISH – A sturgeon is classified as a bony fish because its ancestors likely had bones.

FULVESCENS – The second part of the sturgeon's scientific name, the Species.

GIANT – Lake sturgeon can be up to 6 feet long and weigh 200 pounds!

GREAT LAKES – Home to lake sturgeon.

HETEROCERCAL FIN – Like a shark's tail, the backbone extends to the tip of the caudal fin.

INDIGENOUS – Sturgeon are indigenous, or native, to the Great Lakes region.

LARVAE — Baby sturgeon that have just emerged from the egg that still have a yolk sac.

LIVING FOSSIL – Sturgeon retain many features of ancient fish.

NARES - The nostrils or "nose."

OMNIVORE – Sturgeon eat both plants and animals.

REEF – Sturgeon require a rocky reef to lay their eggs.

SCUTES – The hardened, plate-like structures on the sides of sturgeon.

ST. CLAIR – Sturgeon live in the St. Clair River and Lake St. Clair between the USA and Canada.

STURGEON – A large fish native to the Great Lakes.

THREATENED – Sturgeon are state-threatened, meaning that they could be soon considered endangered across some or all of their range without intervention.



