

# GRADE 8-10

## HOW TO USE THIS CALENDAR

Click on the [LINKS](#) in this calendar to watch videos, get to lessons plans and more. Dates are categorized by...

- Sturgeon
- Salmon
- School Activity Days
- Mammals
- Community Events
- Invertebrates
- Watershed

# 2023-2024 STURGEON CALENDAR

# QUICK LINKS

- V1 - Conservation Centre
- V2 - Spawning to Release Stage
- V3 - Sturgeon in the Wild
- V4 - Predation
- V5 - Changes in the Watershed
- V6 - Recovery of the NWS Population
- V7 - Monitoring Programs
- V8 - Sturgeon in the Winter
- V9 - Sturgeon Life Cycle (K-7)
- Sturgeon Curriculum Outline
- Nature Guide to the Nechako Valley
- Every Sturgeon Counts
- NWSCC Virtual Tour - Fall
- NWSCC Virtual Tour - Spring
- NWSCC Virtual Tour - Summer

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SEP 2023 • 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30  
 OCT • 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30  
 NOV • 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

SEP 6: First day of school! Put up your calendar and bookmark it on [your Browser!](#)  
 SEP 13: Researchers are gearing up for the Juvenile survey. Watch [Video 7](#) and use the [set-lines worksheet](#) to learn more about this research.  
 SEP 20-23: Chinook salmon are migrating upstream. Watch [Every Sturgeon Counts](#) and then plan a [field trip](#) to the Stellako, Nautley, Stuart or Nechako Rivers to see spawning salmon.  
 SEP 25: [BC Rivers Day!](#) Take a [Virtual Tour](#) of the hatchery in the fall.  
 SEP 26-30: Invertebrates play an important role in the river ecosystem and [riparian zone](#). Use the invertebrate cards from the [Sturgeon Kit](#), or the [Nature Guide](#) and plan a field trip to a creek to get a closer look at aquatic insects.  
 OCT 3-7: Bears are now feeding on the spawned salmon. Explore how these interactions in the watershed are important for [biodiversity](#).  
 OCT 9-22: All hatchery sturgeon are getting PIT tags implanted this month. 'Cupcake' is a great example of how effective PIT tags are in research.  
 NOV 2: Researchers have completed their fall [Juvenile Monitoring](#) program. Check the [Where is My Fish](#) website for recaptures from this fall.  
 NOV 13-19: The water temperature in the hatchery is lowering to match river temperatures. Watch [Video 1](#) and view [Culturist](#) to learn more.  
 NOV 28: Watch [Video 5](#) and think about how human actions impact the watershed where live.

JUN 2: The Sturgeon Release Event! 2-year old hatchery sturgeon are about to be released into the Nechako River. Watch one of the [Juvenile Sturgeon Release Events](#) from years past.  
 JUN 12-16: Be proactive - make a checklist of stewardship actions you can take this summer.  
 JUN 19-23: As young sturgeon begin to hatch, they feed on micro-organisms and aquatic invertebrates. Review how sturgeon eat in [Video 3](#) and link that to what you know about aquatic invertebrates.  
 JUN 24-30: Sturgeon have hatched into [larvae](#). Use 'Stuart' the larval sturgeon to expand on sturgeon development in the early stages.  
 JUL 9-15: Most of the eggs that were fertilized in May will now be fully formed juvenile sturgeon at roughly 3cm in length!  
 JUL 16-22: The early Stuart River sockeye salmon run. Think about species interactions happening now in the river. Download the [Nature Guide](#) to learn more and use all summer long!  
 AUG 1 onward: Check the [sturgeon website](#) to see if the hatchery opens to tours or take the [summer time Virtual Tour](#). Make sure to stop and read any [Interpretive signs](#) you come across this summer!

MAR 6: Winter is slowly coming to an end and sturgeon will start migrating to the spawning grounds soon. Review the [map of the watershed](#), watch [Videos 3 & 6](#) and talk about sturgeon migration and [land uses](#) within their distribution.  
 MAR 13: [Tour Time!](#) Take a virtual tour of the hatchery during the spring!  
 APR 3: This month the water will start to warm up. Sturgeon become active and want to feed. Explore [Video 2](#) and [sturgeon habitat and food](#).  
 APR 4: Consider how human actions impact bears coming out of hibernation.  
 APR 16-29: Crews are preparing to (1) release sturgeon into the Nechako, (2) capture adult sturgeon for this year's [brood program](#). Watch [Video 1](#) and use the [Spawn Monitoring worksheet](#).  
 MAY 14-20: Watch for buoys and boats on the river - they are checking for wild [spawned sturgeon eggs](#). Watch [Video 7](#) to learn more.  
 MAY 20-27: [Spawning is happening at the hatchery and the river!](#) Review [Video 2](#) again and read about 'Anna' before exploring further into cellular development in the early life stages of sturgeon.  
 MAY 29: As the water warms, invertebrates start to hatch. Take a water sample from a wetland and river - compare and contrast the invertebrates you find and explain the difference if any. Use the invertebrate guide from the [Sturgeon Kit](#).

DEC 5: Young sturgeon are vulnerable to predators. Watch [Video 4](#), and the [sturgeon anatomy](#) lesson to learn about predation.  
 DEC 12: Sturgeon are overwintering by now. Watch [Video 8](#) to see sturgeon overwintering. Why are these habitat important?  
 JAN 3: Welcome back to school! The NWSRI is finishing another year of recovery work on sturgeon. Have a look at the [year in review NWSRI projects](#).  
 JAN 16: Sturgeon have lived since the age of dinosaurs and have been important to First Nations families for generations - watch [Video 6](#) to learn more, then explore [sturgeon history](#) and 'Unel'tsoo'.  
 FEB 14: Sturgeon researchers are planning [summer research projects](#) (see [Videos 6 & 7](#) too). Create your own sturgeon research project using 'Day in the life of...' as your starting point.  
 FEB 20: Family Day! Show your family at least one sturgeon video from the [YouTube](#) page.

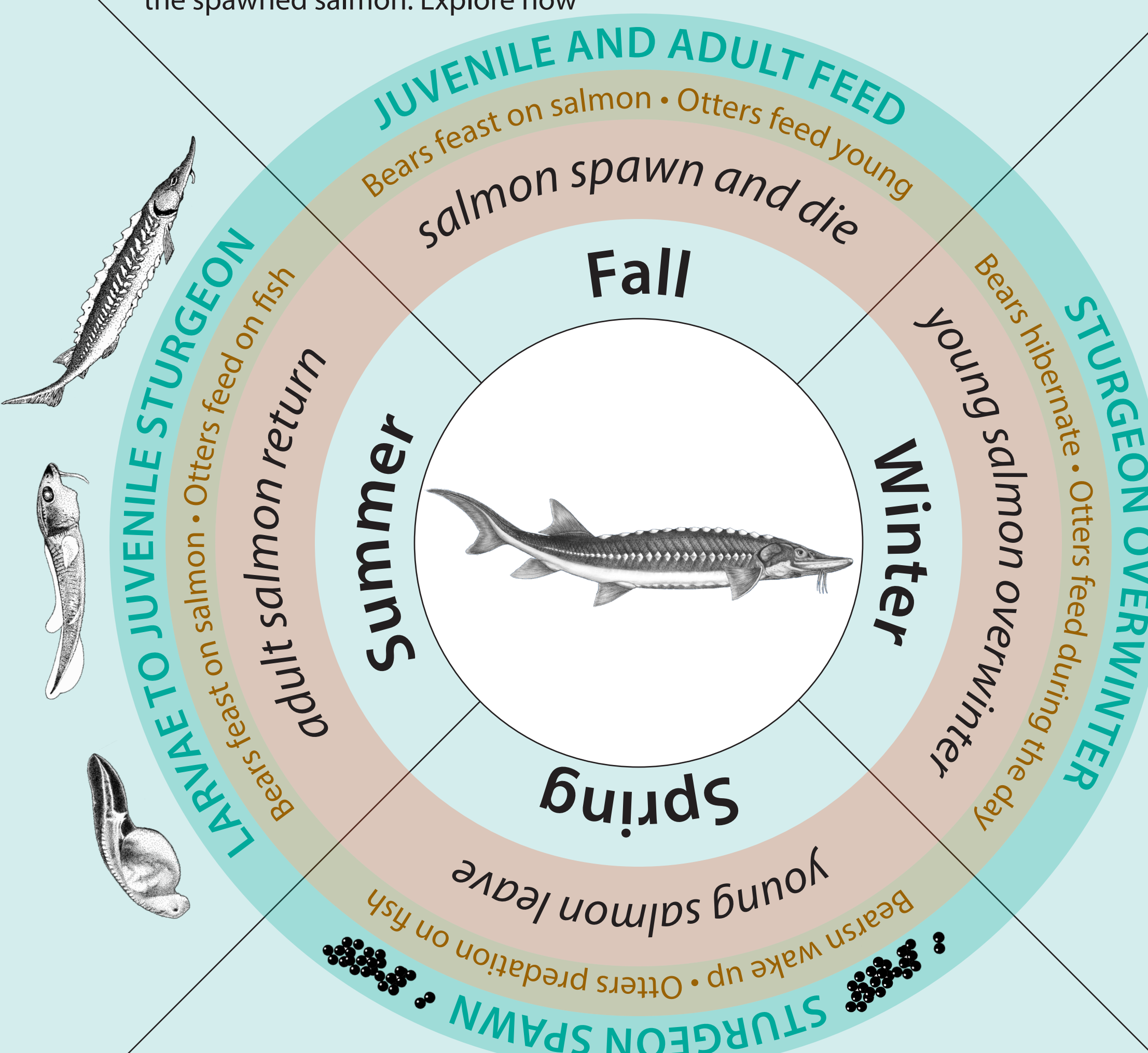
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 FEB • 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

MAR • 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31  
 APR • 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30  
 MAY • 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Visit the [Grade 8-10 webpage](#) to see [activities and curriculum lessons](#) that will help your learners understand these Big Ideas using Nechako White Sturgeon as your example species all year long!

- ✓ Cellular processes
- ✓ Community, the watershed and environment and our place in it
- ✓ Life stages

# BIG IDEAS



# FOR EDUCATORS

**Inquiry Project suggestions are on the Sturgeon Video Resource Sheets. Try one!**

**To Educators:**  
 Book a tour at the hatchery (when we are allowed); borrow a sturgeon field and/or Storm Drain Kit; download resources from our [website](#); and share your experiences and ideas on our Facebook page @NWSRI, or by emailing [info@nechakowhitesturgeon.org](mailto:info@nechakowhitesturgeon.org).