

K-GRADE 3

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 (animation)
- V10 - How the Hatchery Works (animation)
- Sturgeon Curriculum Outline
- Nature Guide to the Nechako Valley
- Every Sturgeon Counts
- NWSCC Virtual Tour - Fall
- NWSCC Virtual Tour - Spring
- NWSCC Virtual Tour - Summer

@NWSRI

www.nechakowhitesturgeon.org

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

September 5: First day of school!
Bookmark this calendar on the Smartboard browser!

September 10-15: Sturgeon have lived since the age of dinosaurs and have been important to First Nations families for generations - watch [Video 6](#) to find the name for sturgeon in Dakelh, and then learn about [sturgeon history](#) and 'Unel'tsoo'.

September 18-22: Salmon are starting to return to spawn - where have you seen salmon spawning? Salmon are a main food for sturgeon. [Ideas in Video 4!](#) Sign out a [Sturgeon School Kit](#) and go visit a stream in your community.

September 24: BC Rivers Day!

September 25-29: Watch [Video 10](#) and do the [activity sheet](#) to learn how sturgeon are grown at the hatchery. Then book an in-person tour or take a [Virtual Tour](#) of the hatchery in the fall.

October 2-6: Bears are now feeding on the spawned salmon. How do bears and fish [interact](#)?

October 8-21: All hatchery sturgeon are getting PIT tags implanted this month. [Video 7](#) gives a demo.

November 6-10: Researchers do many projects to try and help sturgeon. Watch [Video 7](#) and then read about 'Cupcake' to learn more.

November 20-24: Did you know the Nechako River has a dam on it? Learn about the [Watershed](#) in [Video 5](#).

June 3-6: The Sturgeon Release Event is this week! Read about the [Juvenile Sturgeon Release Event](#) from years past, and watch [Video 10](#) again to remember how the sturgeon got to release size!

June 7: The Sturgeon Release Event!

June 10-14: Plan a day to do something out in the community that helps the river and sturgeon - like [Storm Drain Painting!](#)

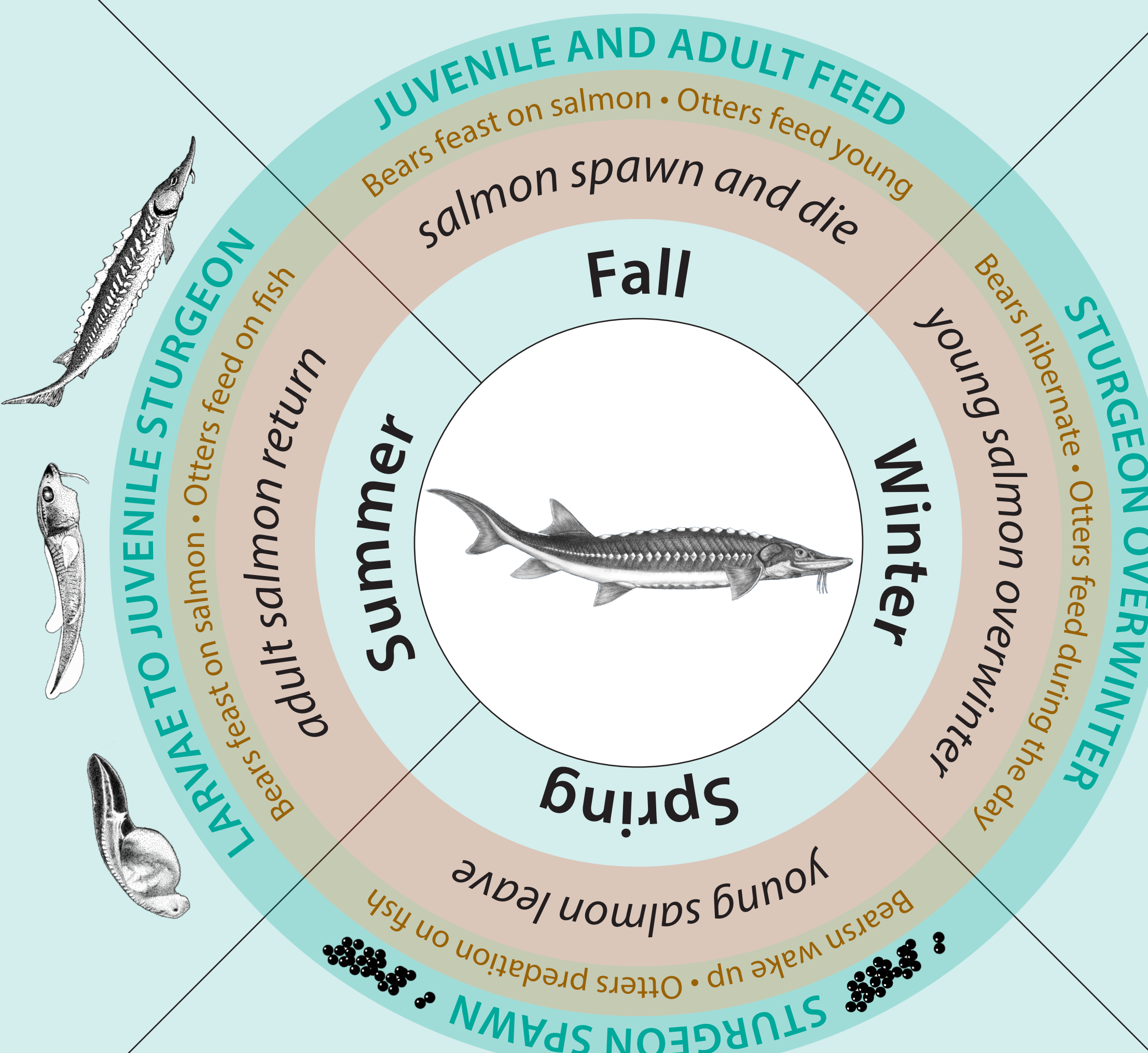
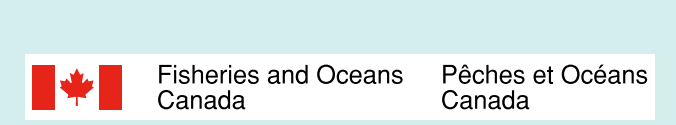
June 17-21: Young sturgeon eat very small organisms. See how sturgeon eat in [Video 3](#).

June 24-30: Sturgeon have hatched into larvae. Read about 'Stuart' a larval sturgeon caught in the Nechako River several years ago.

July 9-15: Most of the eggs that were fertilized in May will now be fully formed juvenile sturgeon - and there is likely some in the river too! Be sure to think about how you can care for the river to protect young sturgeon.

July 16-22: The early Stuart River sockeye salmon are returning to spawn. Download the [Nature Guide](#) to learn more.

August 1 onward: Book an in-person tour at the hatchery or view the [summer time Virtual Tour](#). Make sure to stop and read the [Interpretive signs](#) this summer!



March 4-8: Winter is slowly coming to an end and sturgeon will start swimming to the spawning grounds soon. Watch [Video 3](#), and talk about the the places sturgeon live.

March 11-15: [Tour Time!](#) Book an in-person tour at the hatchery, or take a [Virtual Tour](#) of the hatchery during the spring!

April 8: Back from Spring Break and it is starting to warm up! Sturgeon become active and want to eat. Watch [Video 2](#) and see the [sturgeon habitat and food](#).

April 12: Bears are starting to wake up from hibernation. What will they be eating?

April 15-26: Crews are preparing to catch sturgeon to spawn. Read about 'Anna' one of the oldest sturgeon caught.

May 6-10: In [Video 5](#) learn how researchers are trying to make spawning habitat in the Nechako River better for sturgeon.

May 13-17: Spawning is happening at the hatchery and the river! Watch [Video 9](#) to find out how many eggs female sturgeon can lay.

May 21-24: As the water warms, the invertebrates are starting to hatch. Head down to a wetland, lake or river and use the invertebrate cards from the [Sturgeon School Kit](#) or the [Nature Guide](#) to learn to ID, and try the [Creature Count!](#)

May 27-31: When in Vanderhoof, watch for bouys in the river near the bridge - they mark where researchers are working.

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 [K-Grade 3](#) 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!

- ✓ Life cycle
- ✓ Adaptations
- ✓ How living things interact with their environment

BIG IDEAS

DEC • 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
 JAN 2024 • 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
 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

December 4-8: Young sturgeon have scutes to protect them but some still get eaten. Watch [Video 4](#), and [sturgeon anatomy](#) to learn about predation.

December 11-15: Sturgeon living in the river are not active over the winter. Watch [Video 8](#) to see sturgeon 'sleeping' in the river. Use the [Nature Guide](#) to find out which animals are active here during the winter.

January 8: Happy New Year! Let's get learning about sturgeon again, [play some games](#) on the Smartboard from the sturgeon website.

January 15-19: Although it is winter, go visit a wetland! Lots of mammals and birds use wetlands all year long. Explore this habitat and look for tracks.

February 14: Show some love by bringing the [sturgeon stuffy](#) to your classroom to help review the [parts of the body](#) of the sturgeon! Also watch [Every Sturgeon Counts](#) for more about sturgeon anatomy.

February 19: Family Day! Share your favourite story about sturgeon with your family!

February 26-29: LEAP YEAR - Check the [Where is My Fish](#) website to see if any fish you or your school have released were recaptured last fall and where!

FOR EDUCATORS

To Educators:
We want to help YOU & YOUR STUDENTS LEARN about sturgeon.

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.