

River Herring Life Cycle Wheel Activity

Materials:

- Activity sheets (**Life cycle wheel, Student wheel, Arrow, and Month Wheel**)
- Scissors
- Glue
- Coloring materials (i.e. colored pencils, crayons, markers)
- Paper fastener
- If available, heavier paper for the **Life Cycle Wheel**
 - This will be supporting the other pieces and will be easier with heavier paper

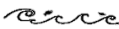



Directions:

This life cycle wheel shows the various stages of a river herring's life adjacent to what is happening in the child's life at the same time/season. The students will be putting together their own life cycle wheel, coloring in the different stages of the river herring's life, and drawing their own activities during each month. Have the children look at the Life Cycle Wheel, Student Wheel, Arrow, and Month Wheel. In the empty segments of the Student Wheel, the students will be drawing what they are doing during the corresponding month, (i.e. draw a pumpkin in October to represent Halloween). They will then color in their wheels and fasten all the pieces together with a paper fastener. NOTE: You can do assembly first or last.



Step 1: Life Cycle Wheel (largest wheel)

- Ask students to identify the adult river herring (big herring) and the juvenile river herring (little herring)
- Pick two different colors to represent the adult river herring and the juvenile river herring and color them in.
- We know that river herring spend some of their time in saltwater and some of their time in freshwater. Using two different colors, color in the two different symbols representing the ocean and river throughout the wheel to show when the herring spend time in each.
 - ocean 
 - a river 



Step 2: Student Wheel (middle wheel)

- Have your students draw their own pictures for each month. These should be images that represent a big event or something special to the students during this month (i.e. I would draw a cake in June for my birthday).
- They may also wish to color in the segments for each month in the Month Wheel



Step 3: Assembly

- Cut out each wheel (Life Cycle Wheel, Student Wheel, Month Wheel). **make sure to also cut out the arrow on the same page as the Life Cycle Wheel
- Poke a small hole through the paper using a pen or pencil in the middle of each wheel where the black dot is located.
- Place the Student Wheel (medium sized circle) on the Life Cycle Wheel (largest circle) making sure to line up the first letter of the months. Glue the smaller wheel to the larger one. (Line up your holes)
- Place the Month Wheel in the center of the Student Wheel making sure to line the months up correctly (the first letter of each month is written in gray on the Student Wheel). Glue the wheel down. (Line up your holes)
- Place the end of the arrow over the black dot in the center of your wheel and use the paper fastener to poke a hole through it and attach the arrow.
- Make sure the paper fastener is through all of the pieces and secure it in the back (folding both flaps of the fastener down)

Special thanks to Coonamessett River Trust Intern Gemma Pennucci for her work on this activity.