

# GRADES 11-12 2020-2021 STURGEON + CALENDAR

USE A LOCAL EXAMPLE TO EXPLORE STEWARDSHIP AND HUMAN IMPACTS. **SMARTBOARD** - Click on the **LINKS** for more! **ON YOU CLASSROOM WALL** - Add your own events and projects on this calendar!

## September 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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27	28	29	30	31		

## November 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
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29	30					

## January 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
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## March 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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## May 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31					1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
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## July 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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## Highlighted Calendar Dates/Activities/Links

Use the [Nechako White Sturgeon Sturgeon Curriculum lessons](#) as starting points, but view the [sturgeon videos](#), and explore the [NWSRI website Research and Publication](#) pages for more in-depth and scientific information about research and planning decisions for the recovery of the endangered Nechako White Sturgeon. The [Video Resource Sheets](#) offer additional inquiry and classroom discussion ideas for further learning.

The dates below highlight important stages in sturgeon life cycle and the recovery process for the species.

**September 8:** First day of school! Put up your calendar and bookmark it on your [Browser!](#)

**September 21:** Chinook salmon runs are in full swing by now. Watch [Every Sturgeon Counts](#) and discuss the importance and impact of the Boat Kit Program.

**September 27:** [BC Rivers Day!](#) What is happening in your community. Start thinking about a stewardship program you can develop for sturgeon.

**September 28:** Invertebrates play an important role in the river ecosystem and [riparian zone](#). Use the invertebrate cards from the [Sturgeon Kit](#), the [Nature Guide](#) or a plan a [field trip](#) to the Stellako, Nautley, Stuart or Nechako Rivers to see spawning salmon and get a closer look at aquatic insects.

**October 5:** Bears are now feeding on the spawned salmon. Explore deeper into how these interactions in the watershed are important for [biodiversity](#).

**October 11-24:** All hatchery sturgeon are getting [PIT tags](#) implanted this month. 'Cupcake' is a great example of how effective PIT tags are in research.

**November 9:** Researchers have completed their fall [Juvenile Monitoring](#) program. Check the [Where is My Fish](#) website to see if any fish you or your school have released were recaptured this fall and where!

**November 15-21:** The water temperature in the hatchery is starting to lower to match temperatures in the river. Feeding slows or may even stop! Watch [Video 1](#) and the [Culturist](#) worksheet to learn more.

**November 23:** Young sturgeon are vulnerable to predators. Watch [Video 4](#) and expand on how humans have played a role in sturgeon survival.

**December 2:** Sturgeon have lived since the age of dinosaurs and have been an important part of First Nations history. Read about 'Unel'tsoo' and review the [history of sturgeon](#). Think about the events of the last 100 years and their impact on sturgeon.

**January 4:** Happy New Year! The NWSRI is finishing another year of recovery work on sturgeon. [Have a look at the year in review NWSRI projects.](#)

**January 18:** Use the [Nature Guide](#) as a reference to examine the biodiversity of the Nechako watershed and the importance of winter habitats.

**February 9:** Sturgeon researchers are planning [summer research projects](#). Create your own sturgeon research project using '[Day in the life of...](#)' as your starting point.

**March 1:** Sturgeon will start migrating to the spawning grounds soon. Review the [map of the watershed](#), watch [Video 3](#), and talk about sturgeon migration and [land uses](#) within their distribution.

**April 8:** Sturgeon are now active and start to feed. Watch [Video 2](#), and read [habitat and food](#). What factors may impact sturgeon at this time of year?

**April 18-24:** Crews are preparing to (1) release sturgeon into the Nechako, (2) capture adult sturgeon for this year's brood program. Watch [Video 1](#) again to get talking about conservation.

**May 7:** [Juvenile Sturgeon Release Event](#).

**May 9:** Staff search for wild [spawned sturgeon eggs](#). Follow the NWSRI on [Facebook](#) for updates.

**May 9-22:** [Spawning is happening at the hatchery and the river!](#) Review [Video 2](#) again and read about 'Anna' before starting on an inquiry project.

**June 7:** Young sturgeon begin to hatch. Review [Video 3](#) again and use '[Stuart](#)' the larval sturgeon to expand on the idea of land use practices, habitat restoration and stewardship.

**June 27-July 3:** Sturgeon have grown into [larvae](#).

**July 11-17:** Most of the eggs that were fertilized in May will now be fully formed juvenile sturgeon.

**June 21:** Over the coming months, be sure to visit the [hatchery for a tour](#) or to visit any of the places where there are [Interpretive signs](#).

**July 19:** The early Stuart River sockeye salmon run. Adult salmon are an important food source for sturgeon. Use the [Nature Guide](#) to learn more.

**August 1 onward:** Check the [website](#) for exact dates and times of tours at the hatchery, as well as other sturgeon related events over the summer.

## BIG IDEAS!

- ✓ Evolution
- ✓ Stewardship and restoration
- ✓ Sustainable land use and climate change

## WHAT'S HAPPENING WHEN...

- Sturgeon
- Salmon
- Mammals
- Invertebrates
- School Activity Days
- Community events

## October 2020

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## December 2020

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## February 2021

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## April 2021

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## June 2021

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## August 2021

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## QUICK LINKS

- Video 1 - Conservation Centre
- Video 2 - Spawning to Release Stage
- Video 3 - Sturgeon in the Wild
- Video 4 - Predation
- Sturgeon Curriculum Outline
- Nature Guide to the Nechako Valley

Check out the [Inquiry Project](#) examples that accompany each of the Sturgeon Videos

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nechakowhitesturgeon.org

We want to help YOU LEARN about sturgeon. Book a tour at the hatchery; 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).