

NWSRI VIDEO SERIES

VIDEO 9 - LIFE-CYCLE

This video is about the sturgeon life-cycle and uses animation to reinforce the concepts related to each life-cycle stage.

Total Length: 7:42 minutes. The video includes a few topics. Below are some key questions to think about for each topic of the video.

Biggest Challenge - Recruitment Failure: 00:00 to 01:15

This section explains some of the main reasons why the Nechako white sturgeon are failing in the Nechako Watershed.

- What is recruitment failure? Refer to [Life Cycle presentation](#) for additional information about recruitment failure.
- What is one way to help sturgeon in the Nechako River survive into the future?

Nechako White Sturgeon Conservation Centre: 01:15 to 01:40

This section goes into some details about the why the hatchery is growing sturgeon to 2 years old.

- Why would releasing a bigger sturgeon into the river be better?

Sturgeon Life-cycle (detailed): 01:40-07:26

This section goes into detail about each life-cycle stage.

- How many eggs can be released by a female sturgeon?
- Sturgeon eggs are sticky. Give one good and one bad reason for being sticky.
- What are 'baby' sturgeon called?
- How old is a sturgeon when it becomes a juvenile sturgeon?
- How long does a sturgeon have to be to be called a 'sub-adult'?

Sturgeon Life-cycle (review): 07:26 to 07:42

- Refer to [Lesson 3-2 \(Life-Cycle\)](#) for further learning and a worksheet activity of the life-cycle.
- Watch [Video 2: Spawning, Life Cycle, and Sturgeon Release](#) for additional learning.
- Use the [Video 2 Resource Sheet](#) for additional questions about the sturgeon life-cycle.

UNDERSTANDING 0.1% (05:55-06:23)

The video lists several reasons why only 1 in 1000 baby sturgeon survive to 1-year old - that is 0.1% of young sturgeon. Encourage conversation in the class about the treats to young sturgeon. Suggested activity is to use rice, plastic chips etc. represent what 1% or 1 in 100 looks like, and then transferring that to 0.1%.

DEFINITIONS

Throughout the video, the narrator uses scientific language. Here are some definitions to many of the terms.

Recruitment Failure: When there aren't enough young animals surviving to maturity.

Aquatic Insects: Invertebrates that live in the water. Juvenile sturgeon eat aquatic insects.

WORKING WITH YOUR STUDENTS:

We recommend:

- Watch the video first and note key spots in the video that may be of interest to your students.
- Use the accompanying activity sheet: [TADPOLES](#) to help your students understand the Big Ideas!

BIG IDEAS:

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

More available at:

www.nechakowhitesturgeon.org

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Tadpole Comparison

Larval Sturgeon - Tadpole Life Stage (03:52-4:35 minutes)

Sturgeon look like tadpoles for about 12 days only!

Compare a sturgeon larvae to a frog tadpole.

Draw a picture of a larval 'tadpole' stage sturgeon and a frog tadpole.

Sturgeon 'Tadpole'	Frog Tadpole

Name something that makes them the same, and something that makes them different.

*Sturgeon and frog tadpoles are the **same** because...*

*Sturgeon and frog tadpoles are **different** because...*