

REDSIDE DACE

The endangered species in your back yard



Activity
Booklet

Meet Red,
the redbside dace!

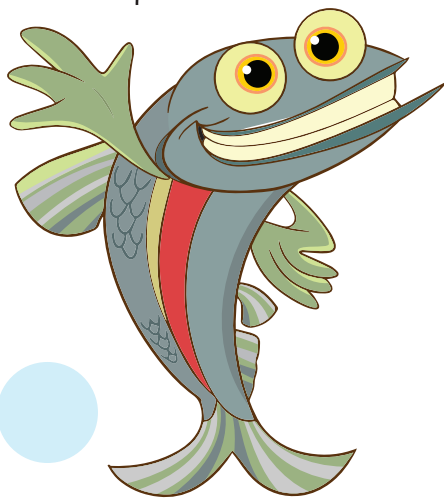


Grandfather
Frog

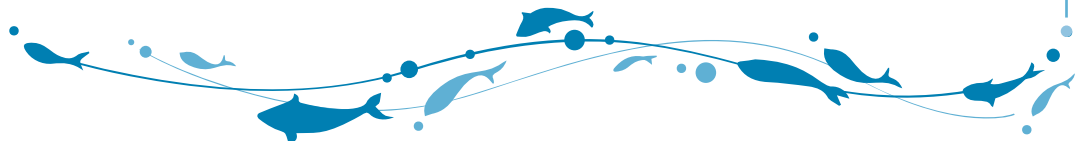


Where Do I Live?

The **Morningside Tributary** is a major branch of the Rouge River. The two rivers meet on Toronto Zoo property! This area has many different kinds of wild animals. Some of the animals that live here are hard to find in other areas of Ontario.



One of the rare animals found here is a minnow called the **redside dace**. This area is important to the redside dace and it should be taken care of and protected. The redside dace is endangered, which means they are at risk of becoming extinct.





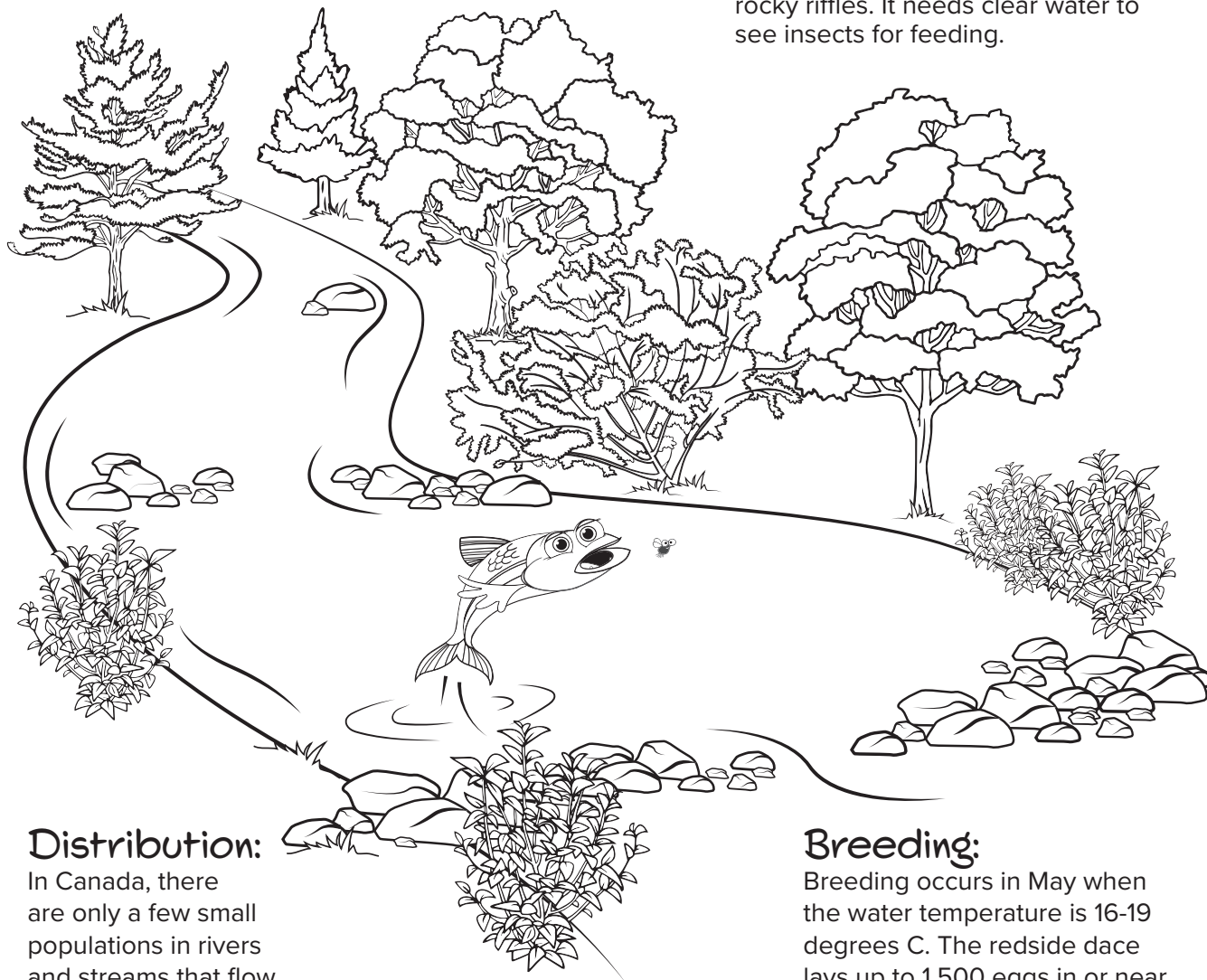
Redside Dace Facts

Scientific Name:

Clinostomus elongatus (Pronounced "Cline-o-stow-mus e-long-gat-us")

Habitat:

The redbside dace likes cool clear streams with deep pools and shallow rocky riffles. It needs clear water to see insects for feeding.



Distribution:

In Canada, there are only a few small populations in rivers and streams that flow into Lake Ontario, Lake Huron and Lake Erie.

Food:

The redbside dace is the only minnow that leaps out of the water to feed on flying insects!

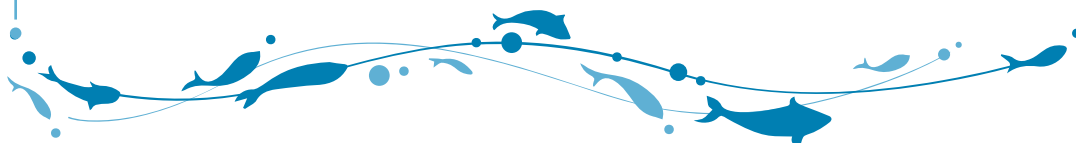
Status: **ENDANGERED**

The redbside dace is in danger of becoming extinct. Over 80% of the redbside dace in Canada live in the Greater Toronto Area, where there is lots of human development.

Breeding:

Breeding occurs in May when the water temperature is 16-19 degrees C. The redbside dace lays up to 1,500 eggs in or near the gravel nest of another minnow, the creek chub, who will guard the eggs from predators.

Maximum Size: 12 cm.
Females are larger than males.



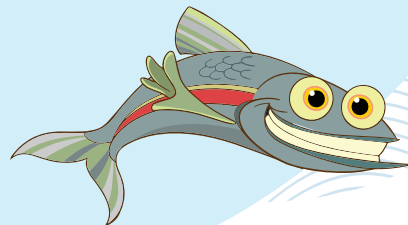
Fill in The Blanks

The redbside dace is a _____ that lives in small _____ and _____ in southern Ontario. It is an _____ fish in Canada, since much of its _____ has been impacted by humans. In the _____ Tributary the redbside dace lives in _____ and _____ water. The _____ that the redbside dace lives in needs to be _____ so that this _____ fish of the Rouge Valley can _____!

Word List:

CLEAN
COLOURFUL
COOL
CREEKS
ECOSYSTEM
HABITAT
MINNOW

MORNINGSIDE
PROTECTED
ENDANGERED
STREAMS
SURVIVE



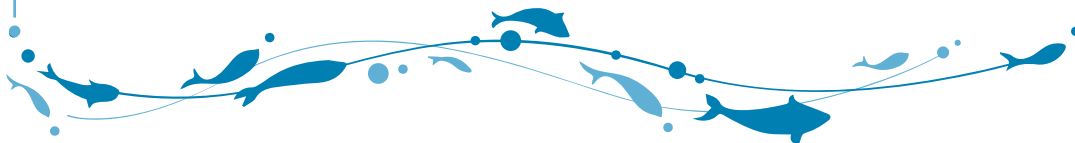
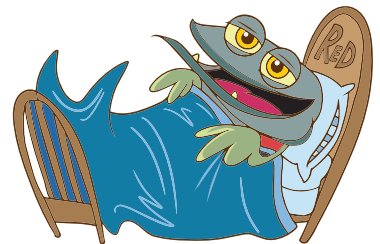
A-MAZE-ING!

Help Grandfather Frog find Red – he's hiding in his creek bed!
But make sure not to run into human development or pollution!

Start

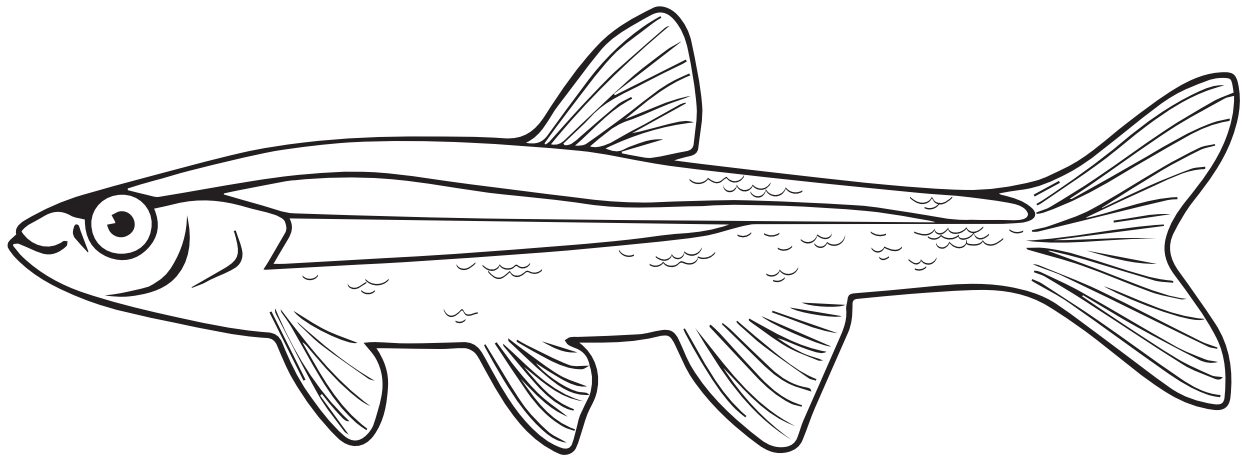


Home
Sweet Home

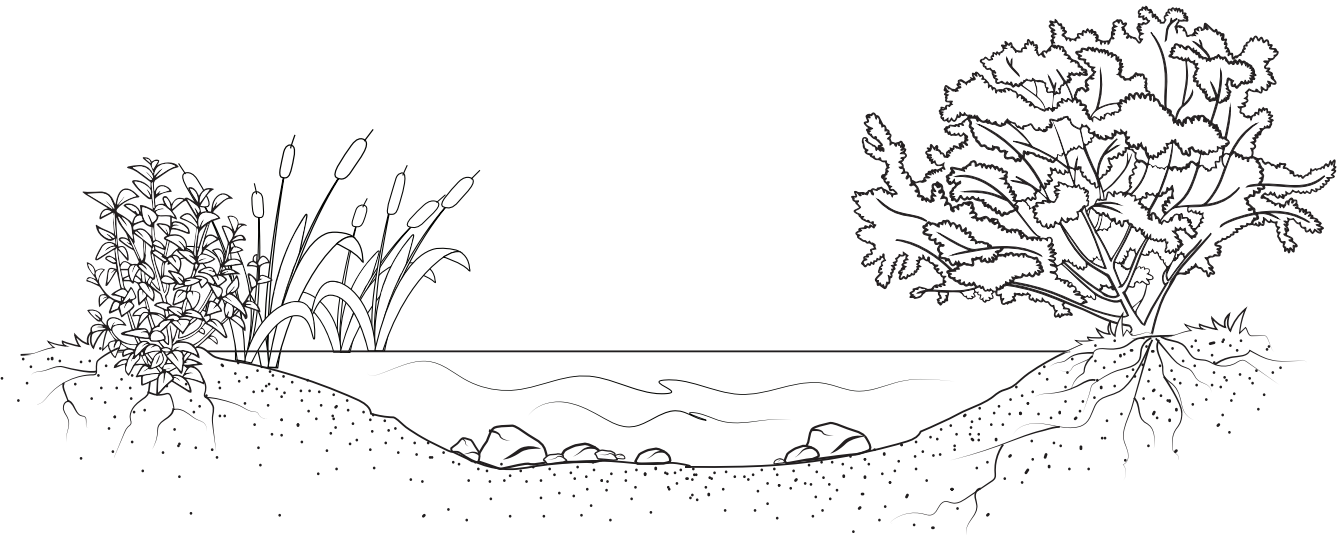




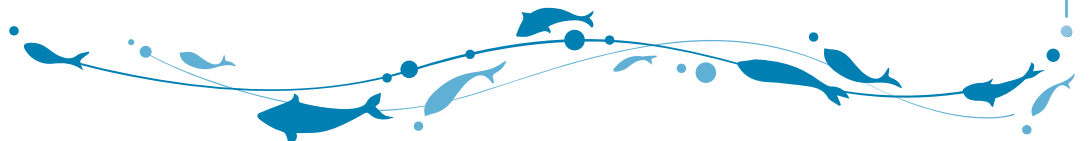
Red Says: Colour Me & My Home!



I have a thin golden stripe on my side and a red band below the gold.
My back is dark green and my sides are sprinkled with dark scales.



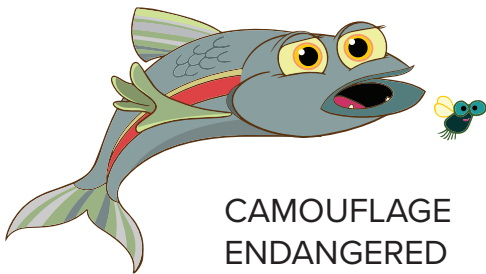
I live in clear, cool water with lots of insects flying around to eat.
The bottom is sandy, rocky and gravelly. The plants on the shore
are healthy and green!



Fishing for Words!

Can you find all Red's words in the jumble?

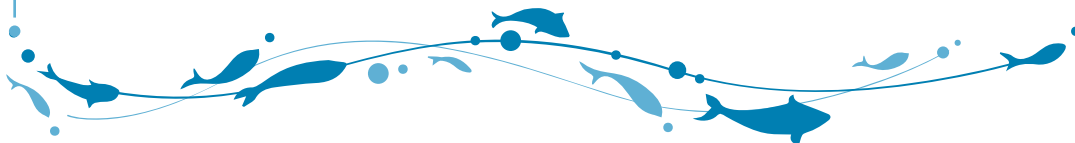
S E N D A N G E R E D F R S C
 K C X S S V W L W X B I I E A
 H S L T I H P A E G Y S V W M
 H C G C I G E O T A Q H E E O
 E A D I F N H L L E P Y R R U
 R L Y P L Z C T T L R Q I R F
 B E H S J L C T U E U X N M L
 I S D M E B S A C C R T D W A
 V L O M N I V O R E K L I V G
 O A Y D O X Y G E N M J C O E
 R K F K M A M M A L I A A C N
 E E T R I B U T A R Y V T T X
 T S N I N S E C T P S T O R M
 K H A B I T A T D A C E R R P
 P G R E A T Y S T R E A M H E



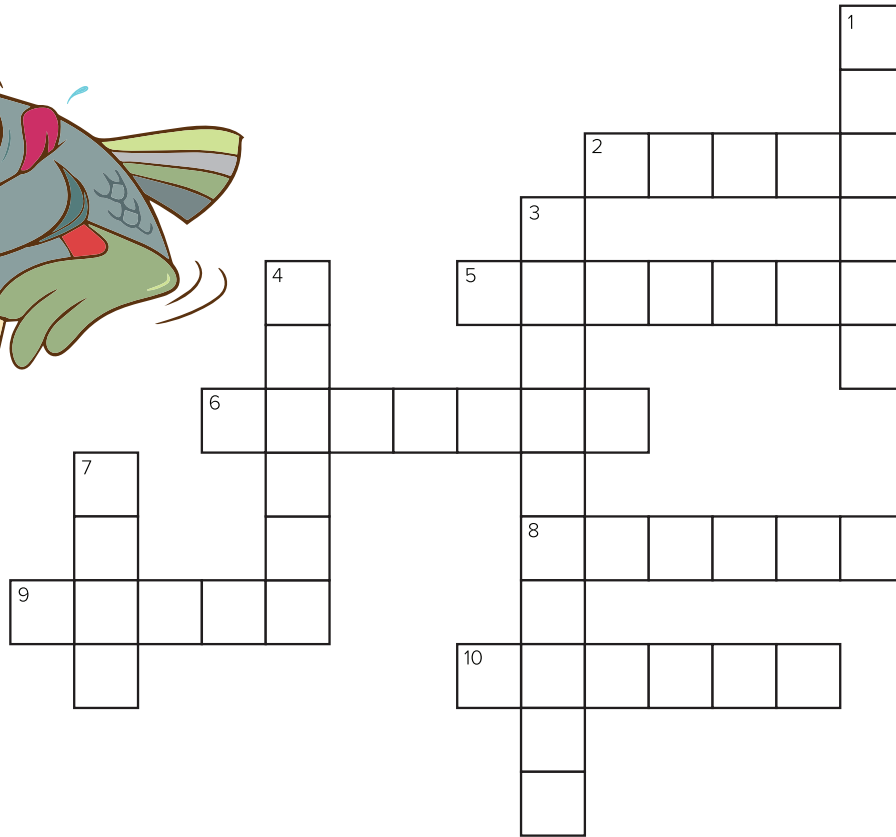
CAMOUFLAGE
 ENDANGERED
 GILLS
 HERBIVORE
 LAKES
 OMNIVORE
 RIVER

SHELTER
 STREAM
 CARNIVORE
 EXTINCT
 GREAT
 INDICATOR
 LEAP
 OXYGEN
 SCALES
 SIGHT

TRIBUTARY
 DACE
 FISH
 HABITAT
 INSECT
 MAMMAL
 POLLUTION
 SEWER
 STORM
 WATER



Crossword Puzzle

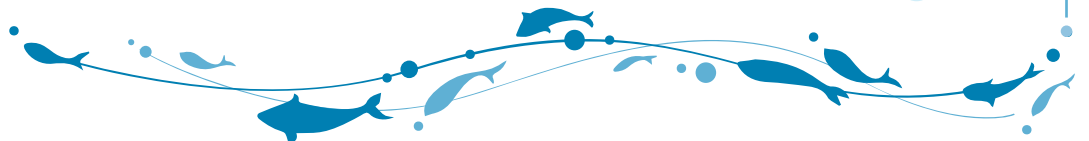


Across:

2. The redbside dace does this near the nests of creek chub in May.
5. Most of the redbside dace live in southern _____.
6. Its destruction threatens the survival of the redbside dace.
8. The redbside dace prefers bottom substrates of rock, sand, or _____.
9. The redbside dace is found in deep _____ in streams.
10. The Morningside Tributary is a _____ of the Rouge River.

Down:

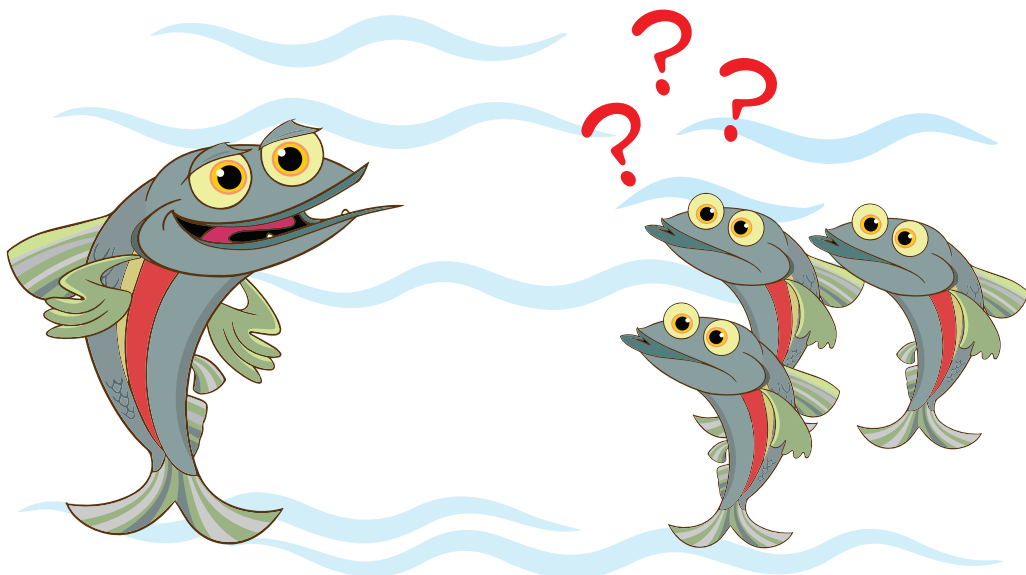
1. The redbside dace is part of the _____ family.
3. The redbside dace is given this label because of the destruction of its habitat.
4. Overhanging _____ creates shelter for the redbside dace.
7. The redbside dace requires _____, clear waters.



True or False?

Are these sentences fact or fib? Circle the correct answer!

1. The redbside dace is a species of freshwater fish. True or false
2. The redbside dace prefers warm, fast moving water. True or false
3. Populations of the redbside dace are decreasing in Canada. True or false
4. Planting vegetation on stream banks supports redbside dace habitat. True or false
5. The redbside dace averages around 20 cm long. True or false



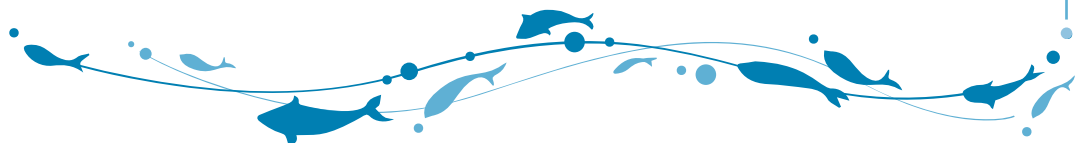
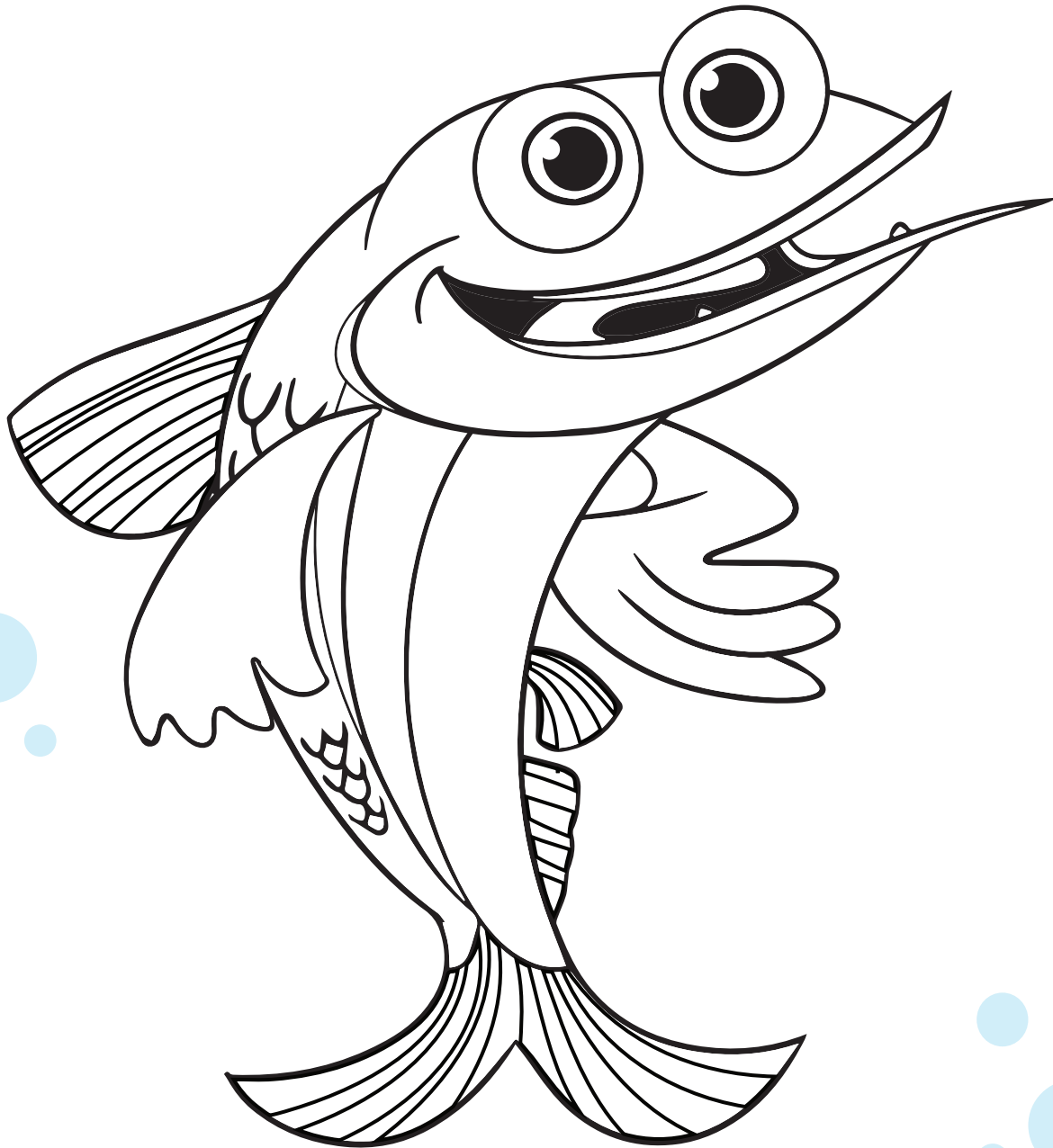


Colour Red!

I leap! I watch for bugs flying above the surface, and then I jump for my dinner.

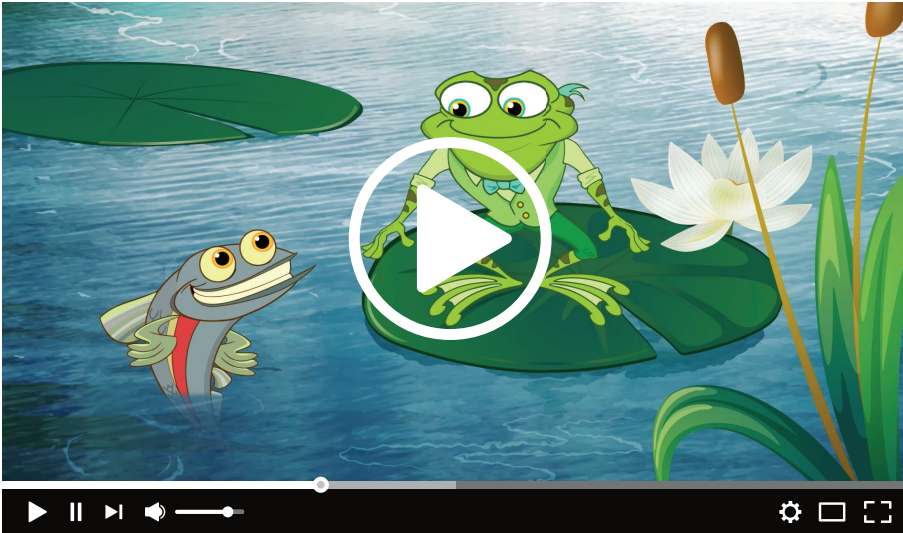
Check out my long lower lip, for feeding at the surface.

Draw a fly by my mouth for me to catch!



Look Before You Leap!

Grandfather Frog meets Red, the redbside dace



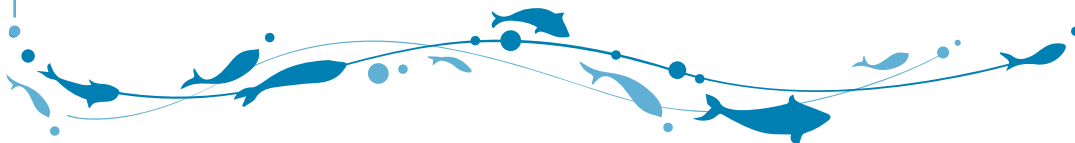
Grandfather Frog is catching flies for dinner when one of them gets swallowed by a mysterious leaping fish. It's Red, the redbside dace! He's a little minnow who's native to Ontario. Red's species is under threat from human development. Captain Nemo asks all of us to help protect the redbside dace – an important “indicator” species – and to support efforts at keeping our waterways healthy and clean.

This video was created in partnership with Kidoons, Lake Ontario Waterkeeper, Toronto Zoo, Swim Drink Fish Canada, and the W. Garfield Weston Foundation, in association with The 20K Collective.

For more redbside dace resources and activities, visit:
<https://www.torontozoo.com/tz/greatlakes>



Watch it online:





Created in partnership with:

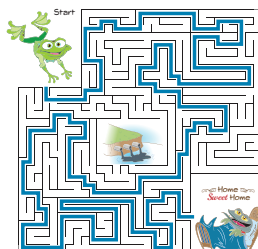


Fisheries and Oceans Canada

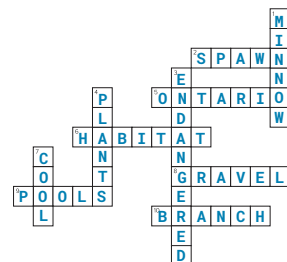
Pêches et Océans Canada

Answers:

The reidside dace is a minnow that lives in small streams and creeks in southern Ontario. It is an endangered fish in Canada, since much of its habitat has been impacted by humans. In the Morningside Tributary the reidside dace lives in clean and cool water. The ecosystem that the reidside dace lives in needs to be protected so that this colourful fish of the Rouge Valley can survive.



S E N D A N G E R E D F R S C
K C X S S V L W X B I I E A
H S L T I H P A E G Y S V W M
H C G C I G E O T A Q H E E O
E A D I F N H L L E P Y R R U
R L Y P L Z C T T L R Q I R F
B E H S J L C T U E U X N M L
I S D M E B S A C C R T D W A
V L O M N I V O R E K L I V G
O A Y D O X Y G E N W J C O E
R K F K M A M M A L I A A C N
E E T R I B U T A R Y V T T X
T S N I N S E C T P S T O R M
K H A B I T A T D A C E R P
P G R E A T Y S T R E A M H E



- True or False?
1. T
 2. F
 3. T
 4. T
 5. F