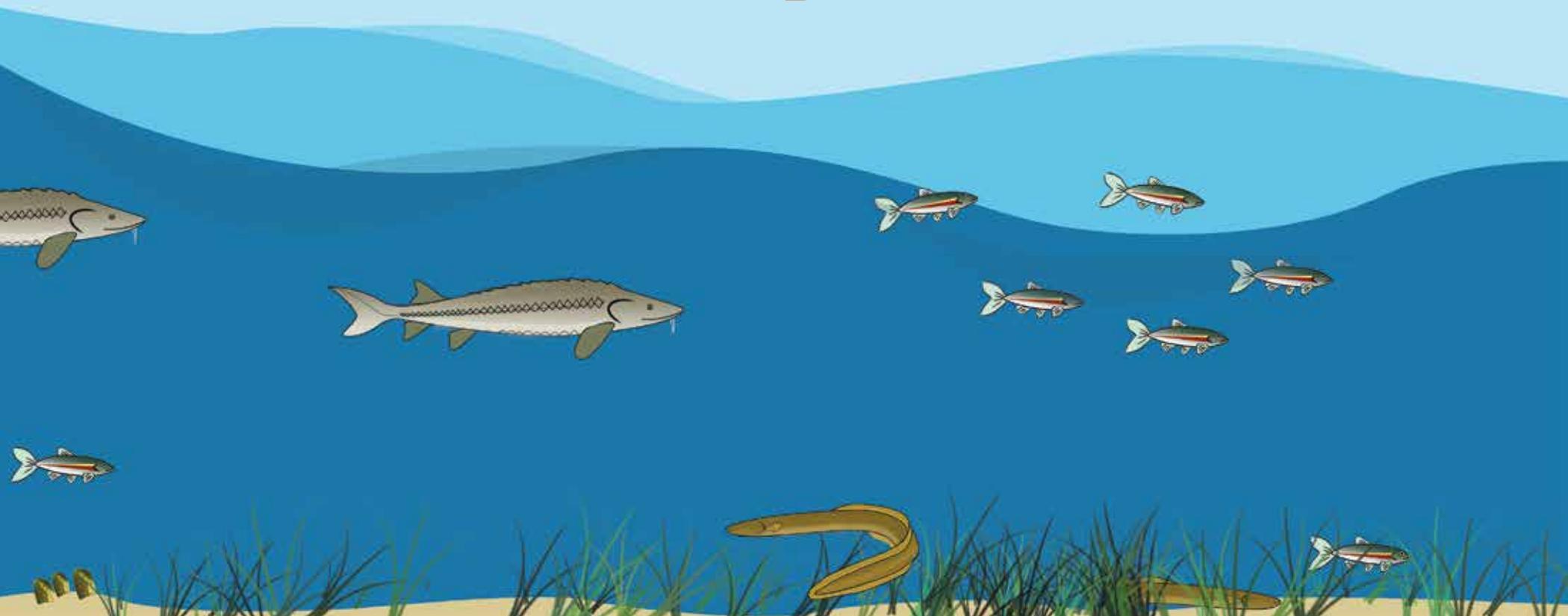




Species at Risk Activity Book



Which Great Lake Am I?

FUN FACT:

20% of the world's freshwater supply is in the Great Lakes watershed.

In this activity book you will learn about the 5 Great Lakes, and about a few of the aquatic species that call the lakes home!

Let's get started by labelling each of the 5 Great Lakes! Fill in labels 1-5 with one of the lakes below:

LAKE ONTARIO

LAKE MICHIGAN

LAKE HURON

LAKE ERIE

LAKE SUPERIOR

①

③

④

②

⑤

FUN FACT:

8.5 million Canadians drink water from the Great Lakes.

Species at Risk

A species at risk is a plant or animal in danger of becoming extinct. The federal Species at Risk Act (SARA) defines species at risk as: an extirpated, endangered or threatened species, or a species of special concern.

Complete the activities in this book to learn about the species at risk that call the Great Lakes home.

Redside dace



Freshwater mussels



Lake sturgeon



American eel



Redside Dace Word Search

Go fishing for words that describe the redbside dace, its habitat and behaviour. The words may be forward, backward, up, down and diagonal.

WORD BANK

MINNOW

SMALL

ENDANGERED

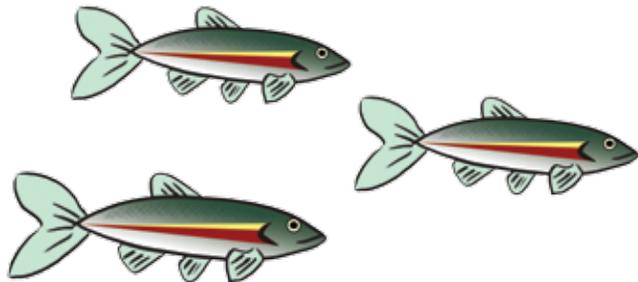
JUMP

INSECTS

STREAM

COOL

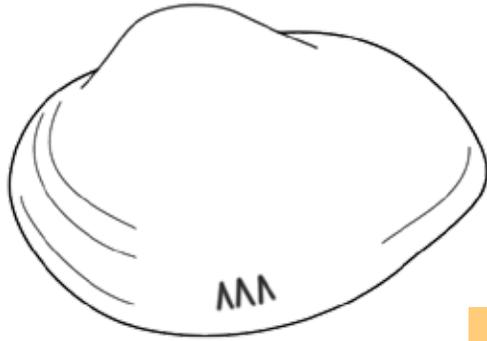
SENSITIVE



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

Colour the Freshwater Mussels

Freshwater mussels have a variety of distinct features. Colour each mussel and include the features described.

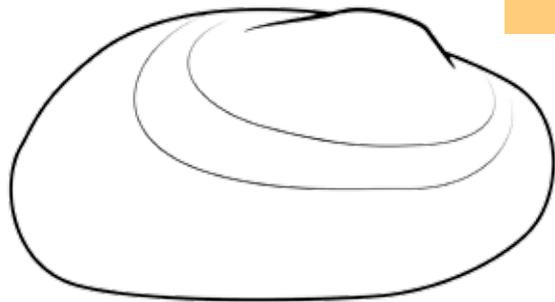
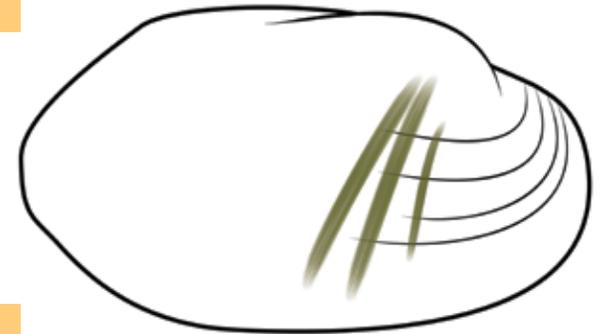


The Fawnsfoot has chevron rays on the exterior of its shell.

Colour the mussel and be sure to include chevrons (markings shaped like inverted Vs shown in sample).

The Fatmucket has green rays on the exterior of its shell.

Colour the mussel and be sure to include green rays.

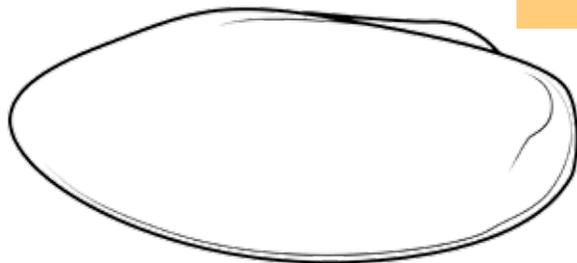


The Creeper has dark growth rings on the exterior of its shell.

Colour the mussel and be sure to include dark growth rings.

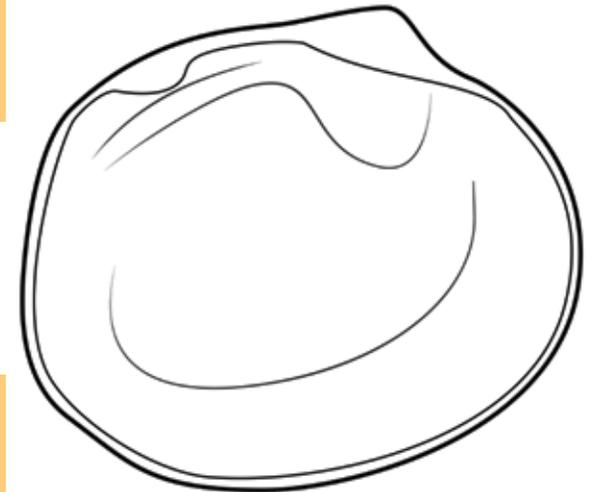
The interior shell of the Purple Wartyback has a pearly purple hue.

Colour the mussel's interior shell.



The interior shell of the Eastern Pondmussel has a pearly pink hue.

Colour the mussel's interior shell.



Lake Sturgeon True or False?

Demonstrate your knowledge about lake sturgeon by choosing the correct true or false answer. Circle the correct answer for each question below.

1. The lake sturgeon can grow as large as a sofa. TRUE or FALSE

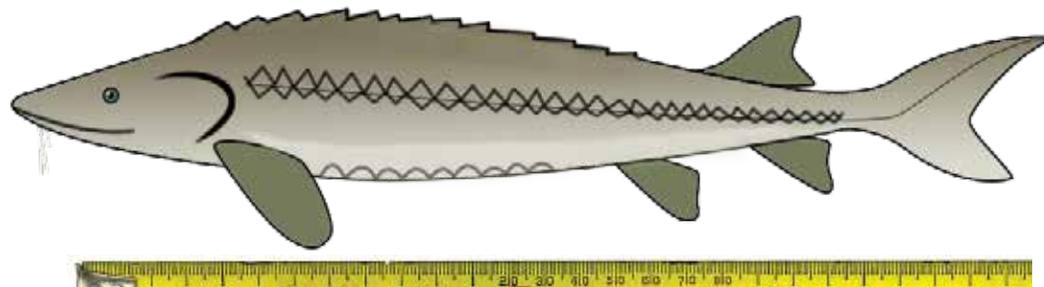
2. Like most fish, lake sturgeons are covered in scales. TRUE or FALSE

3. Lake sturgeons have a short lifespan. TRUE or FALSE

4. Sturgeons have been around since the time of the dinosaurs. TRUE or FALSE

5. Sturgeon skeletons are not made of bone. TRUE or FALSE

6. Lake sturgeons have long, sharp teeth. TRUE or FALSE

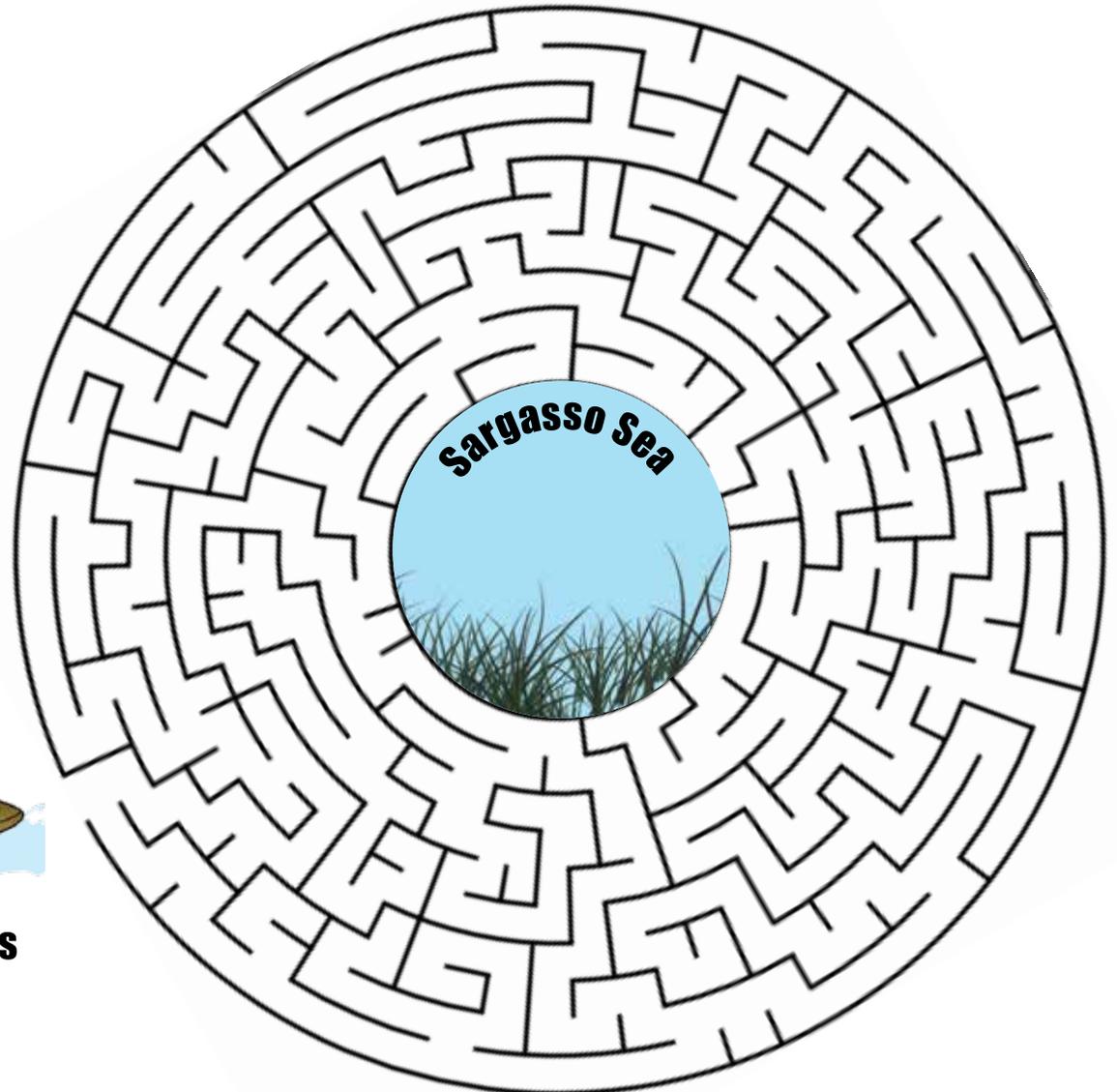


A R-'eel'-ly Long Journey!

It's spawning time! Help the American eel migrate 6000km from the Great Lakes to the Sargasso Sea.

FUN FACT:

American eels are catadromous, meaning they are born in saltwater, mature in freshwater, then return to the ocean to spawn.

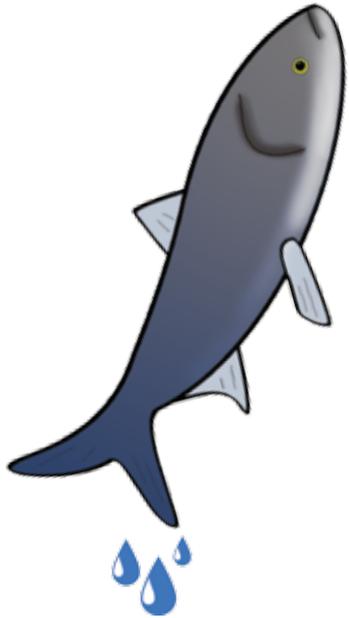


Invasive Species Word Scramble

An invasive species is an organism that has been introduced to an ecosystem outside of its native range AND causes negative impacts in that ecosystem. Sometimes called "exotic" or "alien" species, these organisms can spread quickly and damage the habitat of local aquatic species at risk.

Unscramble the words below, then use the letters in each box to fill in the blanks at the bottom of the page.

HINT: All of the words you are looking for are hidden in the paragraph above.



ERDUTNICO

— — — — — — —

MAADEG

— — — — —

TMICPA

— — — — —

VNEAISIV

— — — — — — —

ILNAE

— — —

We can all prevent the — — — — — of alien species by:

Never releasing household pets into the wild

Reporting sightings of invasive alien species:

<https://www.eddmaps.org/ontario>

Species at Risk Fill in the Blanks

Use the words from the Word Bank to fill in the blanks. Be careful! Some words are a better fit than others

- ① An _____ species is considered to be at risk of extinction.
- ② The thousands of plant and animal species living in different habitats and communities make up Canada's rich _____.
- ③ _____ alien species can cause significant ecological, _____ and economical damage.
- ④ Freshwater mussels _____ their food out of the water at a rate of 40 litres per day.
- ⑤ American eels _____ approximately 6000km to spawn in the Sargasso Sea.
- ⑥ Human actions can have both positive and negative impacts on aquatic _____.

Word Bank

INVASIVE

ENDANGERED

ENVIRONMENTAL

FILTER

BIODIVERSITY

ECOSYSTEMS

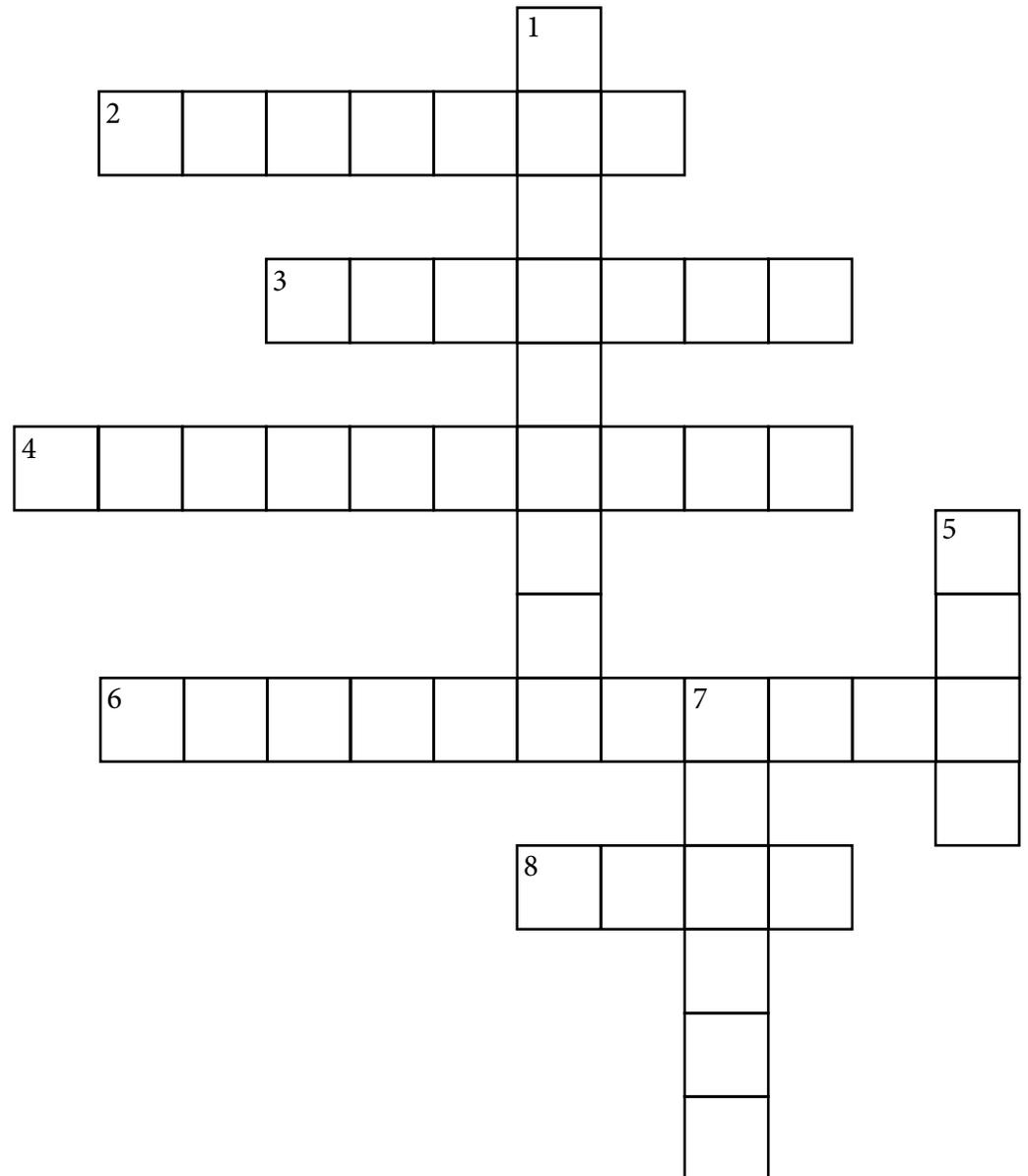
MIGRATE

Species at Risk Crossword

Read through the book to help you fill in the blanks and complete the crossword!

CLUES

1. Freshwater mussels are an _____ of good water quality.
2. It is important to _____ the spread of invasive alien species.
3. The Great Lakes provide _____ for over 150 native fish species.
4. Unlike the oceans which are full of saltwater, the Great Lakes are full of _____.
5. Species at _____ are in danger of becoming extinct.
6. American eel is a _____ species.
7. The redbreasted darter is the only _____ in Canada to jump out of the water to feed.
8. The lake sturgeon's body is covered in _____ plates.

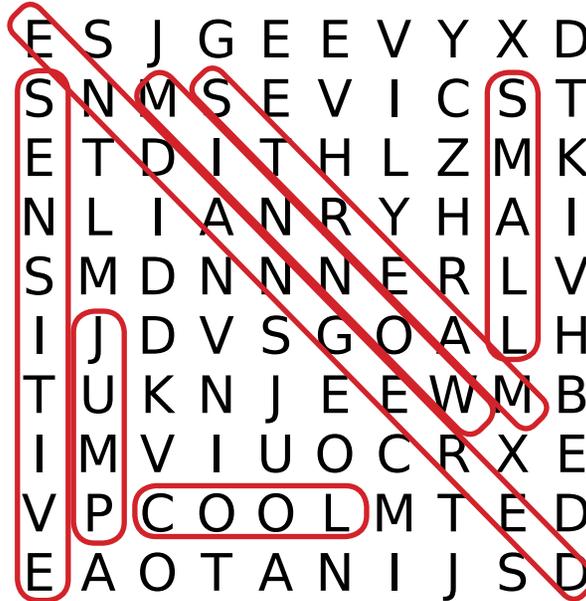


Answers

Which Great Lake Am I?

1. Lake Superior
2. Lake Michigan
3. Lake Huron
4. Lake Ontario
5. Lake Erie

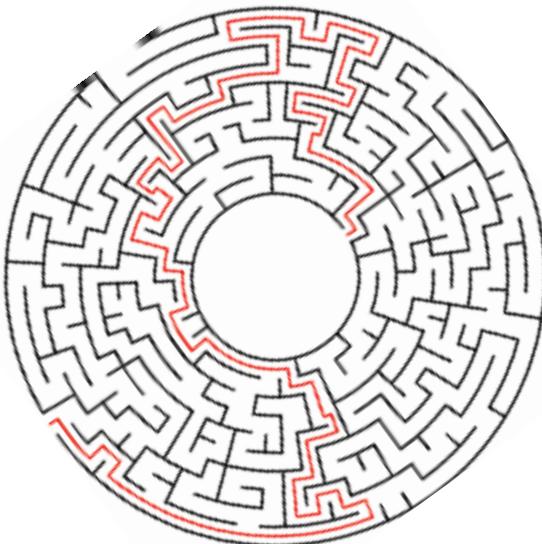
Redside Dace Word Search



Lake Sturgeon True or False

1. TRUE
2. FALSE
3. FALSE
4. TRUE
5. TRUE
6. FALSE

A R-'eel'-ly Long Journey



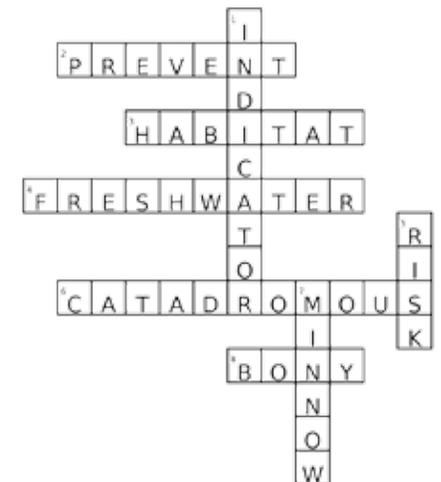
Invasive Species Word Scramble

1. Introduce
2. Damage
3. Impact
4. Invasive
5. Alien
6. Spread

Species at Risk Fill in the Blanks

1. Endangered
2. Biodiversity
3. Invasive, Environmental
4. Filter
5. Migrate
6. Ecosystems

Species at Risk Crossword





Learn more about the Great Lakes Program and the amazing aquatic species living in the watersheds of the Great Lakes
<https://www.torontozoo.com/tz/greatlakes>

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