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## It's a Fishy World for Grades 3 to 5

**Description:** Students become familiar with basic vertebrate anatomy through this step-by-step fish dissection in our outdoor laboratories

**Maximum Number of Participants:** 24

**Duration:** 1 hour

**Summary:** Walk to labs. Divide students into groups. Discuss fishes' exterior anatomical structures and their functions. Make standard "I" incision to examine internal organs and systems. Discuss appearance and function of internal anatomical structures. Collect materials and clean up. Return to main grounds.

**Objectives:** This interactive program introduces students to the processes of life through fish dissection. At the end of the activity, students will know

- Similarities and differences between fish and other vertebrates
- Key terms relating to fishes' body structure
- Basic internal and external fish anatomy

**Benchmarks:** SC.F.1.2, SC.G.1.2

**Vocabulary:** anterior, brain, caudal, cloaca, dorsal, eye, gill, gonad, heart, intestine, kidney, lateral line, liver, muscle, nare, operculum, pectoral, pelvic, heart, scale, spine, stomach, swim bladder, ventral

**Additional Resources:**

<http://myfwc.com/fishing/Fishes/anatomy.html>

<http://www.wacona.com/fish/fish.html>

<http://www.geocities.com/sseagraves/fishadaptations.htm>