

# Hide and Seek!

## **Outcome:**

K-1-02: Identify ways in which humans and other animals use trees.

## **Materials:**

- colouring utensils

## **Teacher's Instructions:**

1. Hand out page 2 to each student. Ask them to find 10 fish in each of the pictures.
2. Discuss whether it was easier to find the fish with no plants or rocks to hide behind.
3. As a listening exercise, ask your students to colour 2 green fish, 4 blue fish, 1 brown fish, etc. Ask them to colour the water blue, the plants green, the rocks brown. If you feel the fish are too small for your students to colour, enlarge the picture for them.
4. Ask your students to colour some fish red. Discuss with them which fish stand out the most.

## **Teacher Background Information:**

One of the ways animals use trees and other plants is for shelter or to hide from their enemies. They may also hide so they can sneak up on other animals they want to eat.

Fish hide among aquatic plants, under tree roots, and behind logs that have fallen into the water. They do this for a number of reasons. Some fish are sensitive to sunlight and avoid it (they can even get sunburned if they are not careful!).

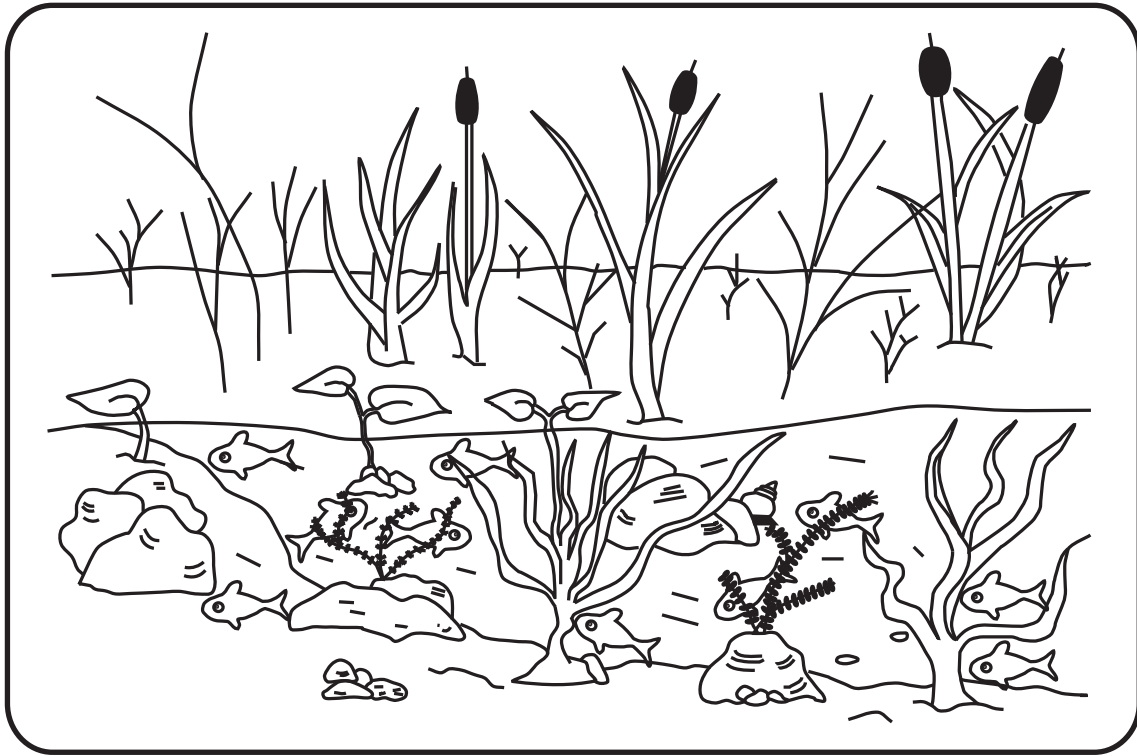
Smaller fish hide to avoid being eaten by bigger fish. Bigger fish lurk under tree roots and logs, lying in wait to dart out and ambush their prey.

Some fish have sticky eggs which they lay under roots and logs so that they are hidden from other animals that would eat the eggs. Some fish lay their eggs in "nests", also hidden under vegetation.

Fish living in Manitoba's lakes and rivers tend to be green, yellow, brown, or grey to blend in with their environment. Fish that like to hide among aquatic plants often have stripes on the side of their bodies that camouflage them as they lurk in the weeds.

# Hide and Seek!

Look at the picture of fish hiding among the plants and trees.  
How many can you find?



There are 10 fish swimming in each of the pictures above and below.  
Is it harder to find the fish that have places to hide?

