

Examples of Adaptations in Fish

| ADAPTATION | ADVANTAGE | EXAMPLES |
|-----------------------------|--|--|
| Mouth | | |
| sucker shaped mouth | feeds on very small plants and animals | Sucker, carp |
| elongate upper jaw | feeds on prey it looks down on | spoonbill, sturgeon |
| elongate lower jaw | feeds on prey it sees above | Barracuda, snook |
| duckbill jaws | grasps prey | Muskellunge, pike |
| extremely large jaws | surrounds prey | bass, grouper |
| Body Shape | | |
| torpedo shape | fast moving | trout, salmon, tuna |
| flat bellied | bottom feeder | Catfish, sucker |
| vertical disk | feeds above or below | Butterfish, bluegill |
| horizontal disk | bottom dweller | Flounder, halibut |
| hump backed | stable in fast moving water | sockeye salmon, chub, razorback |
| Coloration | | |
| light colored belly | predators have difficulty seeing it from below | most minnows, perch, tuna, mackerel |
| dark upperside | predators have difficulty seeing it from above | Bluegill, crappie, barracuda, flounder |
| vertical stripes | can hide in vegetation | Muskellunge, pickerel, bluegill |
| horizontal stripes | can hide in vegetation | yellow and white bass, snook |
| mottled coloration' | can hide in rocks and on bottom | trout, grouper, rockbass, hogsucker. |
| Reproduction | | |
| eggs deposited in bottom | hidden from predators | trout, salmon, most minnows |
| eggs deposited in nests | protected by adults | Bass, stickleback |
| floating eggs | dispersed in high numbers | striped bass |
| eggs attached to vegetation | stable until hatching | Perch, northern pike, carp |
| live bearers | high survival rate | guppies |