

Hey kids! Be in the wild

Smallmouth Bass

A 'newcomer' to New Brunswick.



Age

- Lives as long as 20 years.

Size

- Grows to be 50 centimetres long.

What it looks like

- Brown or green – with a white belly.
- A large head.
- Its large eyes can be red, orange or brown. In fact, it is sometimes called 'red eye'.
- The tail fin of young bass is orange, black and white.

Interesting facts

- It moved here over 130 years ago.
- Does not travel great distances.
- A great fish for fishing!

Where it lives

- Likes clear, quiet water with gravel or rocky bottom.
- Hides behind rocks and debris.
- Enjoys warm water.
- Found in 69 lakes in southwestern New Brunswick and a number of waterways that run into the St. John, St. Croix, Magaguadavic and Petitcodiac rivers.

How it raises its young

- It spawns in May and June.
- The father fish builds the nest by cleaning a spot about one metre wide.
- The mother can lay 14 000 eggs.
- The father stands guard over the nest – and takes care of the young until they are ready to leave the school.
- Sometimes he returns to the same nest year after year.

Who eats whom?

- Eats insects, frogs, and small fish.
- When winter comes, it moves more slowly – and eats less food.
- Guess who likes to eat them? The answer: catfish, yellow perch and turtles.