



FISHO

Objective: Students will become familiar with names of fish and learn about fish habitat.

Materials:

[FISHO game cards](#) (26 total)
Water-based markers (optional)
FISHO [answer blocks](#)

Background:

Fisheries exist in South Dakota in many places such as the Black Hills, prairie streams, rivers, stock dams, and lakes. Lakes and streams in the Black Hills support some of the best trout populations in the state. Small dam fishing across the state has been attractive to anglers who look for opportunities relatively close to home. The Missouri River has supported record walleye catches throughout the years. Expanded habitat, in the South Dakota lakes during periods of high water levels, increases fishery opportunities for everyone.

Procedure:

- This game is played just like “Bingo”. The teacher will need to make copies of FISHO cards or laminate the set to be used again. If cards are laminated, students can use a water-based marker for keeping score on their card.
- Teacher should cut apart all the blocks from the two answer key pages and put in a container from which to draw from later.
- Distribute a FISHO card to each student. Instruct the class that the game is played with the same rules as Bingo, in that you are a winner when you have marked off a line of blocks either up and down (in the same row), horizontally or diagonally across the card. Please make a note of the “fish-free zone” space as their “free” space.
- The teacher will draw from the container and call out the first answer block. Remember to read the entire block. It is important to note which category the fish is listed under. Fish names are repeated throughout the cards.
- Make note of each block that is called on a piece of paper.
- The student who gets five in a row first wins. (Note: another suggested play would be to have students fill up their entire card - first one to do so, wins!)
- Have student read back their winning row and double check against your record.

Grade Level:

Elementary

Subject Areas:

Science, Language Arts

South Dakota Education Standards for 4th grade:

Life Science

Indicator 1:

Language Arts

Indicator 1: 4.LVS.1.2

4.L.1.1

Indicator 4: 4.W.4.1

Setting:

Classroom

Skills:

Communication, Observation

Prior Preparation:

Review the “Fisheries of the Dakotas” poster and encourage students to discuss their fishing experiences.

Vocabulary:

Edible, Endangered, Habitat, Native

Vocabulary Glossary:

<i>Edible</i>	Something that can be eaten
<i>Endangered</i>	A species that are in danger of dying out or being eliminated in some other way
<i>Habitat</i>	A place where something lives (i.e. fish in water)
<i>Native</i>	A species that resides in a specific place and spends generations doing so

Extensions:

- Have students write about litter they have found in and around the area where they like to fish. One good method of gaining perspective of how litter affects wildlife is to write from a specific point of view. For example: how a blue gill, northern pike or trout might describe the effects of litter and other pollution in its habitat. After completing their essays, have them give suggestions on how they would eliminate the pollution from the area where they like to fish. To further this extension, compile a list of polluted areas and the students' suggestions for cleanup and submit to the South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources.
- Invite a local outdoor writer or fisheries professional to speak to your class or to be interviewed by your students. Have students put together a fisheries newsletter with the interview of the visitor as a main article. Encourage students to do research on the internet to find jokes, puzzles, games, etc. that can be added to the newsletter. Distribute throughout the school.
- Visit a fish hatchery. Arrange for a tour in advance with the hatchery manager so your class may have access to areas and information not otherwise available. Ask to see if there are any hands-on activities that your class could do (such as egg-taking and fertilization, assisting with stocking fish, etc.).