

Instructions:

Materials/ Pre- Preparation:

Background information

Scissors

At least 100 ft of space

Card sheet- Risk Cards: Cards 25-34

Migration cards: 1-24

Cut the migration cards and paste them to index cards; number the back of each card with the number of the matching migration statement. Similarly set up the risk cards, but keep them separate. Weighting the index cards is strongly recommended, especially if the activity is to take place outside.

Start:

- 1.) Explain to the students that they are going to pretend to be migrating fish. Assign a fish for each student to be if desired; table 1, located on the background information page, has some examples. Pictures of the fishes can be created if desired; have the students hang the pictures around their necks by threading each picture with a length of string or ribbon..
 - 2.) Create a migration path with the migration cards by placing them face down at 4 foot intervals along a pathway of your choosing. The pathway does not need to be linear, but it helps if there is ample space available.
 - 3.) The ideal # of students is 12; larger classes can pair up or swim in “schools” of 3 to 4 students each.
 - 4.) Divide the class into 3 groups, to start at staggered intervals. If desired, it can be anadromous, oceanadromous, north-south, deep to shallow migrants, etc.
- 4a.) Within each group, give each student a # from 1 to 4; this represents where they will start the migration. Each student given # 1 will begin the activity at migration card #1, each student given # 2 will start at card # 2, etc. . So, within each wave of students, one student will start at each of the 1st four cards.
- 5.) At each card, the student will pick up the card, read it, and do what it says, advancing to new cards in the pathway as directed. If a student is directed to a card that is already occupied, they should take a risk card, and follow its instructions. As the first 4 cards become vacant, send more students into the pathway. When everyone reaches the finish, lead the class in a wrap-up discussion if desired. Sample topics for discussion are natural v. anthropogenic hazards, helpful v. harmful activities, good v. bad fishing practices, etc. What local marine habitats are good for fish, which are bad? Did any fish not finish, and if so, why? And so forth.

Enjoy! Feel free to contact us at www.ifishnewyork.org if you have any questions. This activity was modified with permission from “An Eventful Journey,” © New Jersey Audubon Society. The original activity is available at:

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