



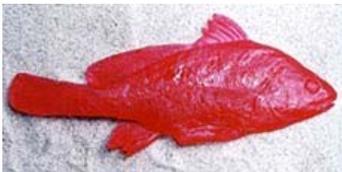
Bluegill (*Lepomis macrochirus*) A large member of the sunfish family, bluegill can grow to several pounds and reach a length of 9 –13 inches. Feeding on small fish, insects, crustaceans and worms, they are very territorial, especially during breeding season. Young bluegill are consumed by

larger bass and other fish, snakes, birds and mammals. Native to North America, this species has been introduced widely throughout the world, where it is often used as both a game and food fish.



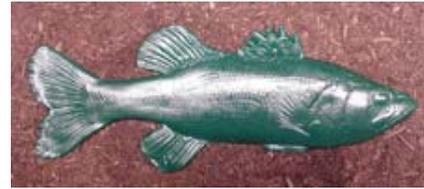
Common Carp (*Cyprinus carpio*) The largest member of the minnow family, it can range in size from inches to giants weighing up to 100 pounds. Carp are not native to North America. Carp were first brought to Europe

from Asia, then to America in the 1870's. Omnivorous feeders, they consume plants, algae, snails, worms, insect larvae, shrimp, mussels and many other organisms. The common goldfish is a member of the carp family, and their relatives, the koi, have been bred and kept as pets for centuries. Records show that carp were farmed for food in Asia as early as 400 B.C., and to this day form an important source of food in many countries. Carp grow slowly over time and have been known to live for over 100 years.



Freshwater Drum (*Aplodinotus grunniens*) Found throughout North America in lakes and rivers, the drum is named from the drumming sound males make with their air bladders and surrounding muscle tissue.

This sound often puzzles lake and river divers when they hear it for the first time. Drums can reach up to 25 pounds, with most averaging several pounds. Although thought of as a freshwater fish, drums also occasionally move through estuaries into marine environments.



Largemouth Bass (*Micropterus salmoides*) Members of the sunfish family, largemouth bass are common in freshwater lakes throughout North America. They feed largely on fish, crayfish and insect larvae, but their

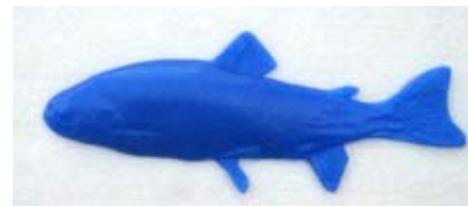
aggressive behavior causes them to strike at anything. Largemouth bass have even been known to eat young ducklings. If one includes all gear used to fish for bass, anglers spend more money on largemouth bass fishing every year than all the money spent on golf and tennis combined!



Northern Pike (*Esox lucius*)

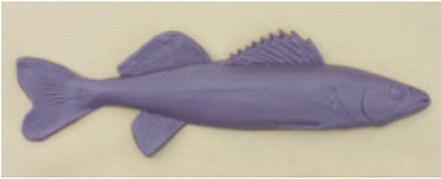
This voracious carnivorous predator is a close cousin to the muskellunge and their Latin name means "water wolf". The northern pike is found in many northern

lakes and streams and can grow up to 59 inches and weigh 55 pounds. The fish has a distinctive habit of catching its prey sideways in the mouth, killing or immobilizing it with its sharp teeth, and then turning the prey headfirst to swallow it. It eats mainly fish, but on occasion water voles and ducklings. Most anglers release pike they have caught because the flesh is considered bony due to the substantial (epipleural) "Y-bones".



Rainbow Trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) Trout are probably one of the best-known North American freshwater fish. They live in cool, clean streams, although several species live in the ocean and spawn in freshwater

environments, similar in manner to salmon. They are native to lakes and streams in the western United States. The largest trout grow to over 50 pounds, but average about 5 pounds. All species are predatory on smaller fish and insects. With the increasing popularity of catch and release trout fishing, many streams once again have large breeding specimens that spawn to help replenish local trout populations. Trout are frequently raised in hatcheries and later released into fishing waters.



Walleye (*Sander vitreus*) Found throughout North America, this species is named for its large, glassy eyes which glow at night in the light, much like cat eyes do. This allows the fish to see

well in low-light conditions and to see well in turbid waters which gives them an advantage over their prey. The walleye is the largest species of the North American perch, reaching a weight of 25 pounds. Prized by anglers, this species is highly aggressive, streamlined and fast. Its large eyes are used for spotting insects and its strong, narrow body is made for darting. The walleye is often considered to have the best tasting flesh of any freshwater fish, and, consequently, is fished recreationally and commercially.



Yellow Perch (*Perca flavescens*) One of the most common species of fish found throughout North America, yellow perch live in freshwater lakes and rivers. Feeding on insects, small fish and crustaceans, they average

a foot in length and can weigh several pounds. Yellow perch are commonly found in fish markets. They also serve as an important food source for larger fish.



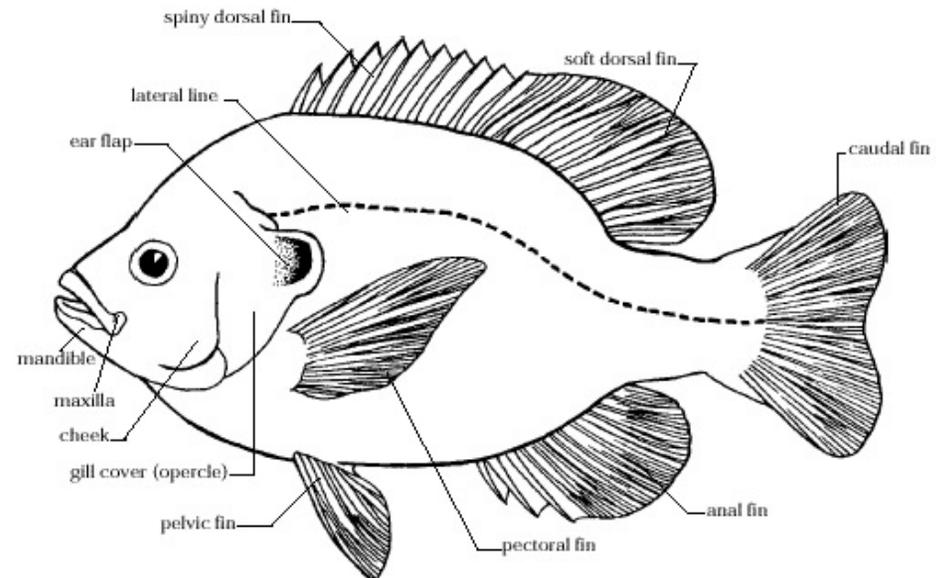
Snapping Turtle (*Chelydra serpentina*) Turtles are the most common reptiles living in ponds and lakes. Their dome-shaped upper shell is joined to the plastron, or lower shell. For protection, they can draw their head and legs partly

or completely inside their shell. The snapping turtle is well-known for its ugly appearance and disposition. With a long, saw-toothed tail and a large head it can weigh between 10 and 35 pounds. Unlike other turtles, the snapping turtle seldom basks in the sun, preferring to bury itself in the mud in shallow water with only its eyes visible. Its diet consists of both plants and animals. Large numbers are caught and used to make soups and stews.

History of Gyotaku

Gyotaku originated about 100 years ago in Japan as a way for sports fisherman to record the exact size and species of fish they had caught. Today, sports fisherman in Japan often display gyotaku as wall decorations in their homes or they keep them as sort of a journal to document their success in the sport. Many Japanese fishing magazines hold contests each year for the largest fish caught for each species. The winners of competitions are chosen by the gyotaku that were submitted. In 1955, the Association of Gyotaku was formed, and the first exhibition was held at the Matsuya Gallery in Ginza, Tokyo. The first gyotaku exhibition held outside of Japan took place in 1956 at the American Museum of Natural History in New York.

ANATOMY-OF-A-FISH



(From: <http://www.manitoulinstreams.com/anatomy-of-a-fish.jpg>)