

Name _____ Date _____

Instructions: Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

1. Where do all salmon start their lives?
 - Ⓐ oceans
 - Ⓑ hatcheries
 - Ⓒ rivers or streams
 - Ⓓ ponds or lakes
2. If an eagle catches a salmon that has absorbed pollution, what will happen?
 - Ⓐ The eagle will become sick and die if it eats it.
 - Ⓑ The eagle will drop the salmon and not eat it.
 - Ⓒ The salmon will die before the eagle can eat it.
 - Ⓓ The eagle will eat it and won't be affected by the pollution.
3. What is **plankton**?
 - Ⓐ small fish living in oceans
 - Ⓑ food pellets put in streams for salmon
 - Ⓒ a type of pollution in streams and rivers
 - Ⓓ tiny living organisms eaten by some fish
4. How are **smolts** and **fry** different?
 - Ⓐ Smolts are very small, and fry are bigger.
 - Ⓑ Smolts eat insects, and fry eat plankton.
 - Ⓒ Smolts live in streams, and fry live in oceans.
 - Ⓓ All of the above
5. What would happen if a salmon returns to its stream and the stream is blocked by a dam?
 - Ⓐ The salmon could not lay or fertilize eggs and would die.
 - Ⓑ The salmon would find another stream to lay eggs in.
 - Ⓒ The salmon would swim back out to the ocean.
 - Ⓓ The salmon would lay eggs in the ocean.
6. What happens to the adult salmon after they lay eggs or fertilize them?
 - Ⓐ They make a home.
 - Ⓑ They swim away.
 - Ⓒ They get eaten.
 - Ⓓ They die.

Quick Check continued on following page

Name _____ Date _____

7. What is an **estuary**?
 - Ⓐ a calm place in the ocean where many animals live
 - Ⓑ a place where a river's water mixes with an ocean's water
 - Ⓒ a polluted area of an ocean or stream
 - Ⓓ a baby salmon with a food sac
8. What does polluted water lack that salmon need?
 - Ⓐ oxygen
 - Ⓑ dirt
 - Ⓒ warmth
 - Ⓓ eggs
9. How can you tell salmon are strong fish?
 - Ⓐ They have to fight each other to get to the spawning grounds.
 - Ⓑ They have to fight the plankton they need to eat.
 - Ⓒ They have to be able to escape from bears.
 - Ⓓ They have to swim against powerful currents.
10. After the eggs hatch, the tiny salmon have _____ attached to them.
 - Ⓐ their mother
 - Ⓑ a food sac
 - Ⓒ large teeth
 - Ⓓ plankton
11. **Extended Response:** Think of your bicycle chain—it's made of links and completes a circle. If a link breaks, the chain is broken and the bike doesn't work. How is a poisoned salmon like the broken chain link?
12. **Extended Response:** Why are salmon a favorite food of bears?

Quick Check Answer Sheet

Salmon: A Link in the Food Chain

Main Comprehension Skill: Sequence Events

1. Ⓒ *Sequence Events*
2. Ⓐ *Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions*
3. Ⓓ *Vocabulary*
4. Ⓑ *Compare and Contrast*
5. Ⓐ *Cause and Effect*
6. Ⓓ *Sequence Events*
7. Ⓑ *Vocabulary*
8. Ⓐ *Main Idea and Details*
9. Ⓓ *Main Idea and Details*
10. Ⓑ *Main Idea and Details*
11. Answers will vary, but should include: *salmon are a link in the food chain that includes many animals, even humans; if a salmon is poisoned, it will die, and the animals above it on the food chain will have to find other sources of food or won't eat.*
12. Answers will vary, but should include: *bears need to eat a great deal of fat during the summer and fall to make it through winter hibernation, and salmon, especially the skin, contains a lot of fat.*