



School of Fish – by Mary Boone

Emmy and her classmates watch and wait and wait some more – for the eggs their teacher put into the tank to turn into alevin and then into fry. Finally, it's Release Day, when the children release the fry into the stream. The salmon's life cycle, what the fish need to live after they're released, and how they manage to find their way back to the same places from which they are released – so they can repeat the life cycle – are all portrayed through the eyes of a little girl.

Fun Facts:

- Georgia DNR's Fisheries Management Section manages 500,000 acres of lakes, 12,000 miles of warm water streams and 4,000 miles of trout streams.
- Georgia ranks third in the nation for the number of native freshwater fishes, with about 265 species that are considered native.
- Each year, more than one hundred thousand students in at least 10 US states participate in raising salmon to the fry stage and releasing them to the wild. While salmon are not native to Georgia, elementary-aged students in another thirty-plus US states participate in similar trout-based programs.

Videos:

- Farm Monitor: Ranger Nick – ***Fish in Our Rivers, Lakes and Streams***
- Magic School Bus: ***Goes Upstream***

Activities:

- Lesson – ***Explore Aquaponics K-2***
- Lesson – ***Explore Aquaponics 3-5***
- Activity – ***Georgia Council of Trout Unlimited partners with some schools to raise trout to release***
(check out [this article](#) for more information)
- Activity – ***Purchase a Classroom Aquaponics Kit***
- Snack – ***Gone Fishing Trail Mix***
- Snack – ***Smoked Trout Dip***
(can substitute trout for salmon if desired – canned salmon typically has bones in it but you can also get smoked salmon at the meat/fish counter)
- Coloring Page: ***Fish***
- Bookmark: ***Fish***

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