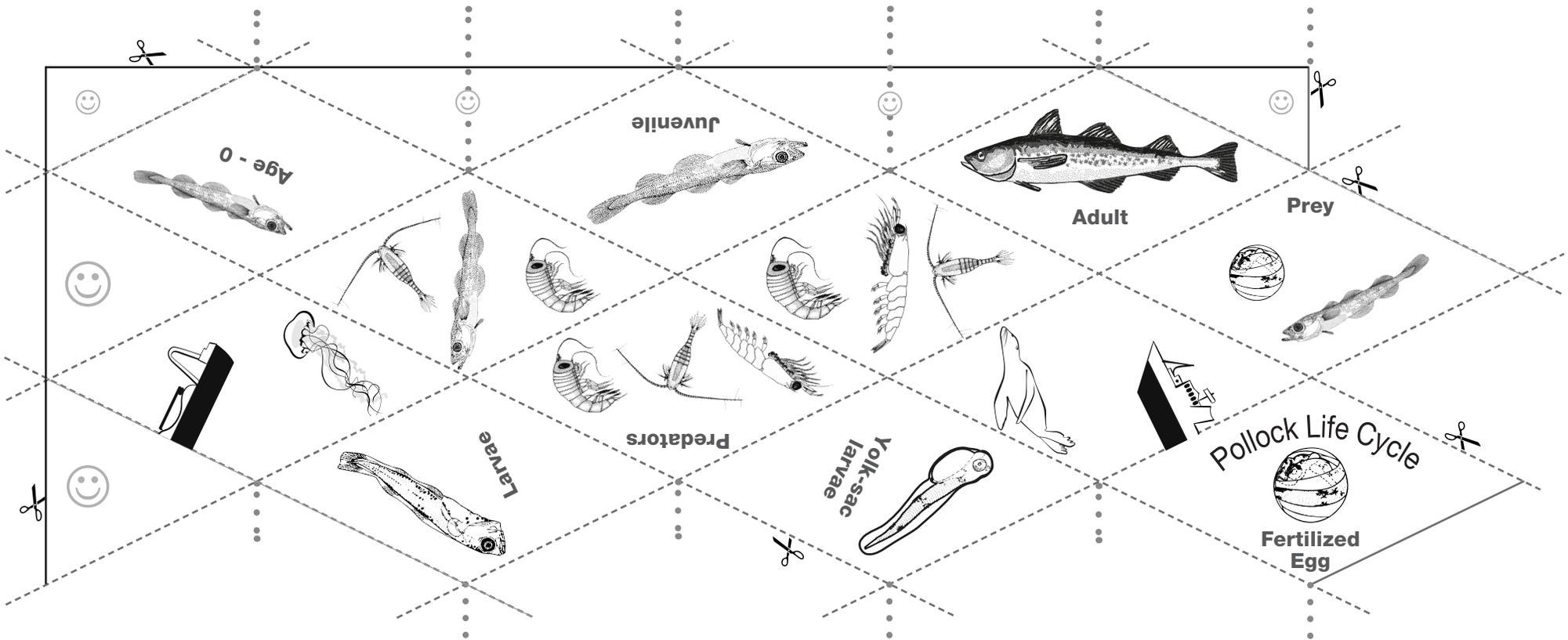


Let's Make a Flexa-Hexagon!



Life Cycle of Walleye Pollock

Walleye pollock make up the largest by volume fishery in the U.S. The fishery as well as the center of their abundance is located in the Bering Sea, a smaller fishery happens in the Gulf of Alaska. They are in the gadid family with other cod and cod-like species and live in large schools about 300 to 1000 feet below the surface of the ocean. They are an important part of the Bering Sea ecosystem as predators and for providing a source of food as prey for many species of animals.

Throughout their life history Pollock populations are also influenced by many environmental factors. These include oceanographic factors such as currents, temperature and nutrients. One of the more influential environmental factors affecting pollock survival is at their larva stage. The success of pollock at the larval stage is dependent on the spring plankton bloom where microscopic plants called phytoplankton begin growing in the ocean. When the bloom begins depends on factors such as the amount of sunlight, nutrients and temperature of the water. The spring phytoplankton bloom is important because it supports reproduction of copepods that are a source of food for walleye pollock. Copepods are small animals, the size of a grain of rice, called zooplankton. These zooplankton feed on phytoplankton, as do their eggs, called copepod nauplii, which are the food source of the larval pollock. If the spring plankton bloom does not occur near or during the time when the larvae are ready to eat, then their survival will decrease.

Instructions

- 1) Fold on vertical dotted lines with printed sides facing each other
- 2) Fold on diagonal dashed lines with so that images are back-to-back
- 3) Cut along perimeter, following the scissors
- 4) Fold into a snake, glue or tape at small smileys
- 5) Roll into a donut, glue or tape at large smileys