

## Growing Up as a Striped Bass

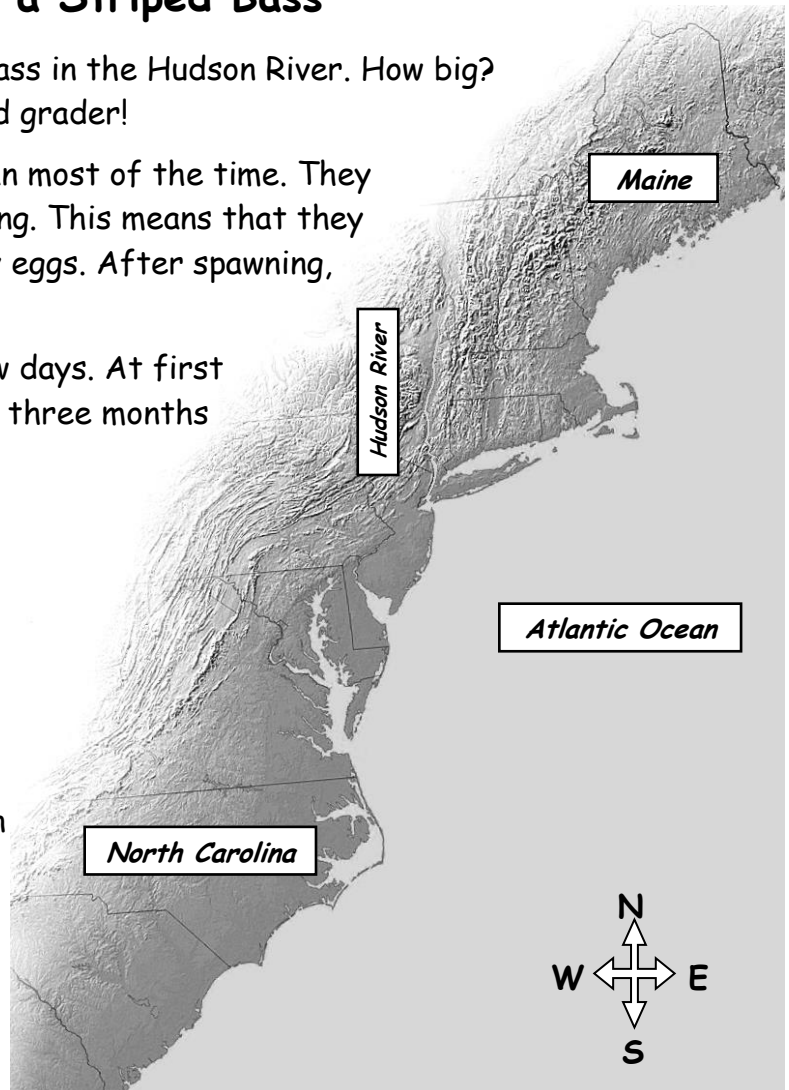
In spring, **anglers** catch big striped bass in the Hudson River. How big? Some of these fish are as big as a second grader!

Striped bass live in the Atlantic Ocean most of the time. They **migrate** into the Hudson to **spawn** in spring. This means that they swim from the ocean into the river to lay eggs. After spawning, these bass go back to the ocean.

Striped bass hatch from eggs in a few days. At first they don't look like their parents. Nearly three months go by before they get their stripes.



Most young bass go out into the ocean when they are two years old. There they may swim north to Maine in summer. In winter they may swim south to North Carolina. They come back to the Hudson to spawn after they are four years old.



## How Big? How Old

This table matches the length and weight of a striped bass to its age. For example, a bass 20 years old would be 55" long. It would weigh 70 pounds.

1. How old are you?  
\_\_\_\_\_ years
2. A striped bass as old as you is  
\_\_\_\_\_ inches long.
3. A striped bass your age weighs  
\_\_\_\_\_ pounds.
4. How much do you weigh?  
\_\_\_\_\_ pounds
5. How old is a striped bass that weighs the same as you?  
\_\_\_\_\_ years
6. How tall are you? Have a partner measure your height. Use a ruler or tape measure.  
\_\_\_\_\_ inches

**Table showing length and weight of striped bass ages 6-22 years**

*Figures are approximate.*

Age of bass (in years)	Length of bass (in inches)	Weight of bass (in pounds)
6 yr	27"	10 lb
7 yr	29"	11 lb
8 yr	31"	13 lb
9 yr	33"	16 lb
10 yr	35"	18 lb
11 yr	37"	21 lb
12 yr	39"	24 lb
13 yr	41"	27 lb
14 yr	43"	32 lb
15 yr	45"	36 lb
16 yr	47"	42 lb
17 yr	49"	47 lb
18 yr	51"	55 lb
19 yr	53"	60 lb
20 yr	55"	70 lb
21 yr	57"	83 lb
22 yr	59"	95 lb

7. If a striped bass is as long as you are tall, how old is it?  
\_\_\_\_\_ years
8. If a student caught a 10 year and a 13 year old bass, what would be their combined weight?  
\_\_\_\_\_ lbs.
9. How much longer is a 20 year old striped bass than a 12 year old striped bass?  
\_\_\_\_\_ inches longer



*A scientist weighs a striped bass.*