

## Sockeye Salmon: Reading Expert Worksheet

[Students highlight or circle new vocabulary in the text.]

**Class:** Sockeye salmon are bony fish.

**Habitat:** The sockeye lives in freshwater rivers and streams for the first part of its life. It then migrates to the ocean, where it lives most of its life. It returns to freshwater at the end of its life to lay eggs.

**Food:** The sockeye salmon feeds mainly upon zooplankton. It also eats insects.

**Why threatened or endangered:** Most populations of sockeye salmon are endangered because of erosion caused by mining and logging in forests. The dirty runoff can pollute the gravel bedding the salmon needs for laying eggs, and can kill the insects it eats.

**Importance to forests:** Salmon are an important part of the food chain, providing food to bears and large birds of prey. They also bring nutrients from the ocean to the streams and rivers.

**Interesting facts:** Salmon travel thousands of kilometers and use their sense of smell to help guide them home when returning from the ocean.

[Students draw pictures here to help remember vocabulary.]