Salmon and Trout Bibliography

A Guide to California’s Freshwater Fishes, Bob Madgic (Resource)

A River Dream, Allen Say—serene and simple book about a boy’s dreamed catch-and-release trout fishing trip

A River Ran Wild, Lynne Cherry—intricate drawings and not too much text for a read-aloud; details the damage by industry to the Nashua river and efforts to restore it

A Salmon for Simon, Betty Waterton, Ann Blades (Illustrator)—k-4—low-key tale of a boy trying to return a salmon to the sea

A Swim through the Sea, Kristin Joy Pratt—preK-3—vividly illustrated ABC book using ocean creatures—written and illustrated by a 16 year old

Come Back Salmon by Molly Cone, Sierra Club Books for Children, San Francisco. 1992. Describes the efforts of the Jackson Elementary School in Everett, Washington, to clean up a nearby stream, stock it with salmon, and preserve it as an unpolluted place where the salmon could return. 6 chapters, 44 pages. Beautiful photos. About coho salmon, not the Chinook of this area.

Discovering Salmon, Nancy Field, Sally Machlis—excellent and engaging nature activity book

Down, Down, Down in the Ocean, Sandra Markle, Bob Marstall (Illustrator)—3-5—non-fiction, explores the ocean from surface to floor

Down to the Sea: The Story of a Little Salmon and His Neighborhood, Jay Nicholas (Illustrator)—K-4—beautifully illustrated story of a coho who learns that the people of Oregon are working to protect his home

Ebbie & Flo, Irene Kelly - all ages (note: Atlantic Salmon)

El Auto Bus Magico Va Contra La Corriente: Un Libro Sobre La Migracion De Los Salmones, Nancy E. Krulik (4-8) (Atlantic salmon)

Eyewitness Books Fish, Steve Parker—non-fiction, large, engaging photos

Eyewitness Juniors: Amazing Fish, Mary Ling—non-fiction, large, engaging photos


First Fish, First People: Salmon Tales of the North Pacific Rim, ed. Judith Roche & Meg McHutchison (Resource)

Fish Do the Strangest Things, Leonora and Arthur Hornblow—non-fiction fun facts

Hook a Fish, Catch a Mountain, Jean Craighead George—young adult—after catching a cutthroat trout, cousins investigate where it came from and how it survived

Keeper for the Sea, Kimberly Smith Brady—preK-2—picture book about fishing with Grandpa

Kids’ Incredible Fishing Stories, Shaun Morey—collection of true-but-amazing stories of record-breaking, bizarre, or impressive fishing stories featuring kids
Letting the Swift River Go, Jane Yolen—k-4—first-person story about the (real life) flooding of a town for a dam

Life Cycle of a Salmon, Angela Royston—non-fiction

Lightning’s Tale: The Story of a Wild Trout, Hugh Campbell—trout’s point of view story about its life cycle, habitat, and (responsible) fly-fishing


Mountain in the Clouds: A Search for the Wild Salmon, Bruce Brown (Resource)

My Father’s Boat, Sherry Garland, Ted Rand (Illustrator)—k-4—beautiful story of Viet-American boy and his father

Oceans and Rivers, Francis Dipper—K-4—non-fiction

Pacific Salmon: Alaska’s Story, Alaska Department of Fish and Game


People of Salmon & Cedar, Ron Hirsch (young adult) Cultural relationship to resources, traditions

Reaching Home, Natalie Forbes (Photographer), Tom Jay and Brad Matsen: Photo-essay - salmon role in lives and culture of the diverse peoples of the Northern Pacific (Resource)

Salmon, Sylvia M James, Paul Bachem (illustrator)—ages 9-12, nonfiction

Salmon Nation: People and Fish at the Edge, Elizabeth Woody ed. (Resource)

Salmon of the Pacific, Adam Lewis – technical – lots of information (Resource)

Salmon Stream, by Carol Reed-Jones—beautiful illustrations, repetitive text for younger readers describing the life cycle of salmon

Salmon Summer, Bruce McMillan photo-essay –k-4—Aleut boy’s summer of salmon fishing

Salmon Without Rivers: A History of the Pacific Salmon Crisis, Jim Lichatowich (Resource)


Six Foolish Fishermen, Robert D. San Souci—K-4—funny, Cajun-themed retelling of a folktale

Swimmer, Shelly Gill, Shannon Cartwright (Illustrator)—K-4—combines fiction and nonfiction, engaging

Totem Salmon: Life Lesson from Another Species, Freeman House (Resource)

The Adventures of Max the Minnow, William Boniface—picture book with wiggle eyes

The Big Fish: An Alaskan Fairytale, Marcia Wakeland, Sasha Sagan (Illustrator)—K-4—colorful and positive
The Fish Princess, Irene W. Watts, Steve Mennie (Illustrator)—gr. 1-3—folktale about a girl who is really a salmon

The Gift, Kristine Franklin—pre-k-2—lovely picture book about a boy fishing in the far north with his grandma

The Girl Who Swam with the Fish, Michelle Renner—age 7 and up—retelling of an Alaskan tribal folktale

The Kids’ Book of Fishing and Tackle Box, Michael J. Rosen—clear and comprehensive introduction to freshwater fishing for kids—packaged with a stocked plastic tacklebox!

The Life of River and Streams, Robert Usinger (Resource)

The Magic Fish, Freya Littledale—ages 4-8—a classic fable about greed

The Salmon, Paul Hogan

The Salmon (Life Cycles), Sabrina Crewe, Colin Newman (illustrator)

There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Trout!, Teri Sloat—prek-2—Pacific NW twist on the classic