

Learn to Love a Lamprey

Lamprey Discovery Kit



Why are Pacific lampreys important?

(From the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's "The Pacific Lamprey Experience" booklet)

- Lamprey ammocoetes (young lamprey or larvae) are a known food source for other fish and birds.
- Adult Pacific lampreys may act as a buffer for migrating adult salmon from predation from marine mammals.
- Pacific lampreys, like salmon, return important marine nutrients to the freshwater systems in which they spawn and die.
- Pacific lampreys remain important to the Native Americans both culturally and as a food source.
- Today, Pacific lampreys are used for research, education, and anticoagulants (important medicines that keep blood from clotting).

Take a peek inside our lamprey discovery kit!

- Investigate real lamprey teeth! Lamprey teeth are made of keratin, which is the same stuff that makes up your hair and nails, and are hollow to let new teeth grow in underneath them. An adult lamprey can shed its teeth 25-50 times per year!
- Learn fun facts about lampreys as you create your own lamprey fortune teller and color the pictures on the lamprey coloring pages.
- Wrap up your lamprey journey by following some lamprey as they migrate! Head to the last page of your lamprey activity kit ("Follow the Adult Pacific Lamprey Migration Journey") and follow the directions to track 4 different adult lampreys on their journeys! For a bonus, answer the questions under #3 and be entered to win sweet prizes from Yakama Nation Fisheries and the Pacific Lamprey Institute – happy swimming!

Through donations, The REACH Museum is able to provide educational resources and materials to our community.

Please consider a donation by texting REACH to 243725