

# GRADE 8-10 2021-2022 STURGEON CALENDAR

**SMARTBOARD - Click on the LINKS for more!**  
**ON YOU CLASSROOM WALL - Add your own events and projects on this calendar!**

## WHAT'S HAPPENING WHEN...

- Sturgeon
- Salmon
- Mammals
- Invertebrates
- School Activity Days
- Watershed
- Community events

### September 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

### November 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

### January 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31					1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

### March 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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### May 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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### July 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31					1	2
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## Highlighted Calendar Dates/Activities/Links

**September 7:** First day of school! Put up your calendar and bookmark it on your Browser!

**September 14:** Researchers are gearing up for the Juvenile survey. Watch [Video 7](#) and use the [set-lines worksheet](#) to learn more about this research.

**September 20:** Chinook salmon are migrating upstream. Watch [Every Sturgeon Counts](#) and then plan a field trip to the Stellako, Nautley, Stuart or Nechako Rivers to see spawning salmon.

**September 26:** [BC Rivers Day!](#) Take a [Virtual Tour](#) of the hatchery in the fall.

**September 27:** Invertebrates play an important role in the river ecosystem and [riparian zone](#). Use the invertebrate cards from the [Sturgeon Kit](#), or the [Nature Guide](#) and plan a field trip to a creek to get a closer look at aquatic insects.

**October 5:** Bears are now feeding on the spawned salmon. Explore how these interactions in the watershed are important for [biodiversity](#).

**October 10-23:** All hatchery sturgeon are getting PIT tags implanted this month. 'Cupcake' is a great example of how effective PIT tags are in research.

**November 8:** Researchers have completed their fall [Juvenile Monitoring](#) program. Check the [Where is My Fish](#) website for recaptures from this fall.

**November 14-20:** The water temperature in the hatchery is lowering to match river temperatures. Watch [Video 1](#) and view [Culturist](#) to learn more.

**November 29:** Young sturgeon have scutes to protect them, but are still vulnerable to predators. Watch [Video 4](#) and expand on predatory-prey interactions, and how humans have played a role in sturgeon survival.

**December 13:** Sturgeon are overwintering by now. Watch [Video 8](#) to see sturgeon overwintering. Why are these habitat important?

**January 3:** Happy New Year! The NWSRI is finishing another year of recovery work on sturgeon. [Have a look at the year in review NWSRI projects.](#)

**January 17:** Sturgeon have lived since the age of dinosaurs and have been important to First Nations families for generations - watch [Video 6](#) to learn more, then explore [sturgeon history](#) and 'Unel'tsoo'.

**February 8:** Sturgeon researchers are planning [summer research projects](#) (see [Videos 6 & 7](#) too). Create your own sturgeon research project using 'Day in the life of...' as your starting point.

**February 21:** Family Day! Show your family at least one sturgeon video from the [YouTube](#) page.

**March 7:** Winter is slowly coming to an end and sturgeon will start migrating to the spawning grounds soon. Review the [map of the watershed](#), watch [Videos 3 & 6](#) and talk about sturgeon migration and [land uses](#) within their distribution.

**March 14:** [Tour Time!](#) Take a virtual tour of the hatchery during the spring!

**April 4:** This month the water will start to warm up. Sturgeon become active and want to feed. Explore [Video 2](#) and [sturgeon habitat and food](#).

**April 17-30:** Crews are preparing to (1) release sturgeon into the Nechako, (2) capture adult sturgeon for this year's [brood program](#). Watch [Video 1](#) and use the [Spawn Monitoring worksheet](#).

**May 6:** Watch for a virtual event, and read about the [Juvenile Sturgeon Release Event](#) from years past.

**May 15-21:** Watch for buoys and boats on the river - they are checking for wild spawned sturgeon eggs. Watch [Video 7](#) to learn more.

**May 22-28:** [Spawning is happening at the hatchery and the river!](#) Review [Video 2](#) again and read about 'Anna' before exploring further into cellular development in the early life stages of sturgeon.

**June 1:** Be proactive - make a check-list of stewardship actions you can take this summer.

**June 6:** Larval sturgeon feed on micro-organisms and then juveniles feed on aquatic invertebrates. Review how sturgeon eat in [Video 3](#).

**June 26-July 2:** Sturgeon have hatched into [larvae](#). Use 'Stuart' the larval sturgeon to expand on sturgeon development in the early stages.

**July 10-16:** Most of the eggs that were fertilized in May will now be fully formed juvenile sturgeon at roughly 3cm in length!

**July 18:** The early Stuart River sockeye salmon run. Think about species interactions happening now in the river. Download the [Nature Guide](#) to learn more and use all summer long!

**August 1 onward:** Check the sturgeon [website](#) to see if the hatchery opens to tours or take the [summer time Virtual Tour](#). Make sure to stop and read any [Interpretive signs](#) this summer.

## BIG IDEAS!

Visit the [Grade 8-10 webpage](#) for lessons and activities that will help your learners understand these Big Ideas using Nechako White Sturgeon as the example species.

- ✓ Cellular processes
- ✓ Community, the watershed and environment and our place in it
- ✓ Life stages

### October 2021

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### December 2021

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### February 2022

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### April 2022

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### June 2022

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### August 2022

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## QUICK LINKS

- V1 - Conservation Centre
- V2 - Spawning to Release Stage
- V3 - Sturgeon in the Wild
- V4 - Predation
- V5 - Changes in the Watershed
- V6 - Recovery of the NWS Population
- V7 - Monitoring Programs
- V8 - Sturgeon in the Winter

- Sturgeon Curriculum Outline
- Nature Guide to the Nechako Valley
- Every Sturgeon Counts
- NWSCC Virtual Tour - Fall
- NWSCC Virtual Tour - Spring
- NWSCC Virtual Tour - Summer

Check out the [Inquiry Project](#) examples that accompany each of the Sturgeon Videos

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 nechakowhitesturgeon.org

Book a tour at the hatchery (when we are allowed); borrow a sturgeon field and/or Storm Drain Kit; download resources from our [website](#); and share your experiences and ideas on our [Facebook page @NWSRI](#), or by emailing [info@nechakowhitesturgeon.org](mailto:info@nechakowhitesturgeon.org).