

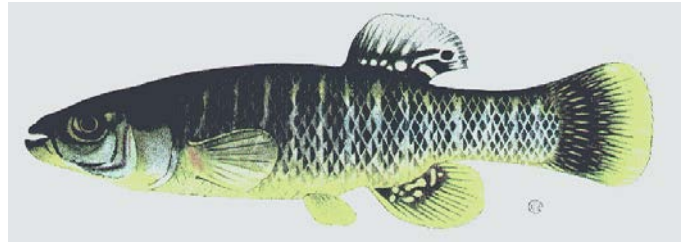
## What Do Animals Need To Stay Alive? HABITAT!



Where do you live? Is your home in a house? In an apartment building? Is it in the country? In a small town? In a city?

The people in your town or city belong to different families. They have different jobs. Yet they live together in a **community**. A community is a place where people live and work together. Here they have homes where they find food, water, and shelter.

This fish is a mummichog. It is found in the Hudson River. Do you think it lives in a house? In an apartment? In a town or a city?

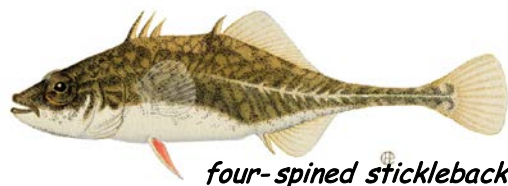


Fish do not build homes in towns, but each has a favorite place to live called a **habitat**. Habitats provide the food, water, and shelter fish need. Mummichogs prefer shallow water where plants grow. This picture shows mummichog habitat.

These fishes live in the same habitat as mummichogs. They belong to different families, but together they form a fish community.



*banded killifish*



*four-spined stickleback*



*northern pipefish*

Below are pictures of three Hudson River creatures and three Hudson River habitats. Draw a line joining each creature to its habitat.



**A.** The spotted sandpiper prefers sandy or muddy shorelines.



Hudson River at Poughkeepsie



**B.** The Atlantic sturgeon prefers deep water in large rivers and the ocean.



Tivoli North Bay



**C.** The marsh wren prefers marshes.

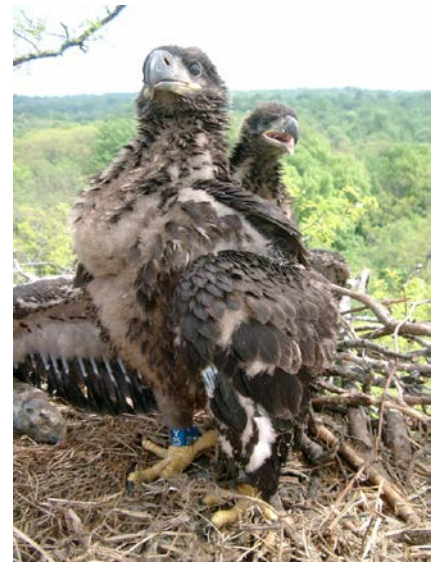


Hudson River beach in Port Ewen



Photo by Mike Pogue

In their habitats, animals find food, water, shelter, and a place to raise their young. Bald eagles need water to find the fish they eat. They need large trees for their big nests. In winter, they need shelter from cold winds at night.



Here is a picture of eagle habitat on the Hudson. Put the number **1** where an eagle would find food, **2** where it might build a nest, and **3** where it might find shelter from winds.



*Round Island*