

Hogchoker Hunt

Have you ever looked for an animal and not found it? Some animals are hard to see. They blend in with their **surroundings**. This is called **camouflage**. Their colors, patterns and shapes help them to hide.



The hogchoker lives in the Hudson **River**. This fish is brown with a pattern of dark stripes. It lies flat on the muddy bottom. Would a hogchoker be easy to see?

Since this fish lies on the bottom, its eyes point up. Hogchokers keep watch for **predators** swimming overhead. Catfish and sturgeon might eat hogchokers.

Hogchokers also look around the bottom for food. They eat tiny worms, insects and other small creatures.



Camouflage Hunt

Which color hogchoker is hardest to find?

Directions:

1. Color one hogchoker black, one brown, and one black and brown.
2. Cut out each hogchoker.
3. Go outside on to the playground. Place each fish where it will blend in with its surroundings. Do not hide them under or behind anything. They should be in view, but hard to see because of their camouflage.
4. Have a partner try to find each one. He or she will have only one minute to search.
5. Which color hogchoker was the easiest to find? Which one was the hardest?

