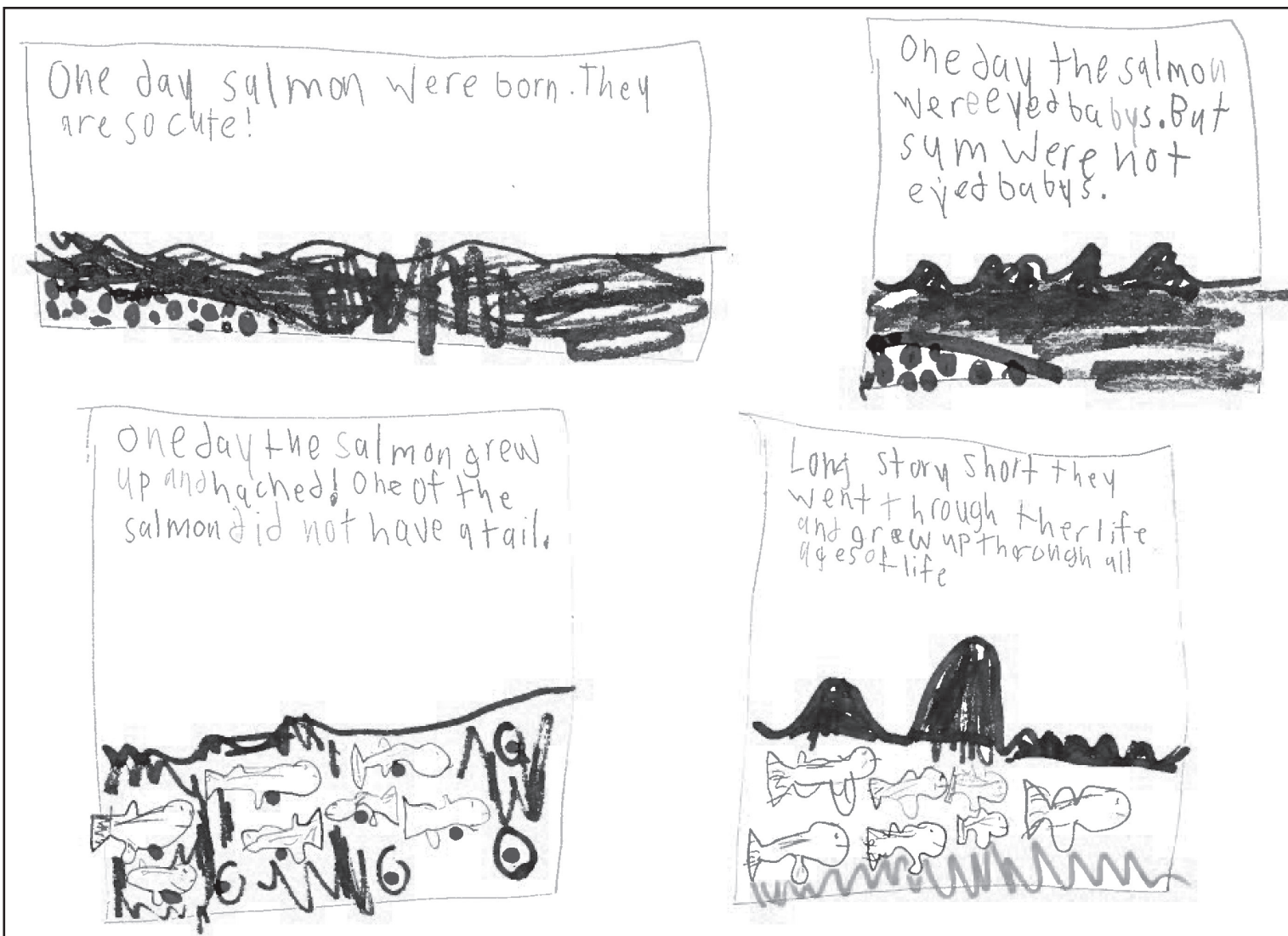


# SALMON IN THE CLASSROOM



NATALIE LOMBARDI/REESE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## Salmon Salmon

By Amelia Cruz  
DAVIS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Salmon salmon, eggs so red,  
you look just like what people said.  
Salmon salmon, your look true,  
Every fish needs a mother like you.  
When you lay eggs, your tail falls,  
you die protecting little red balls.  
Salmon salmon, despite this,  
You're always with these little red fish.

## Salmon Acrostic Poem

Sophia Huerta  
REESE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Slippery Fish  
Aquatic From The Atlantic  
Ladder Climber  
Migration  
Overfished  
New Life Will Start The Cycle Over

## Life of a Salmon

Natalie Lewis-Sanchez  
REESE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

I start as an alevin.  
I am so small.  
I don't know how to swim.  
I just float in the water.  
Then, I become a fry.  
But I am not fish-fry.  
As I grow up,  
I become a fish.

## From the Mokelumne River to the Pacific Ocean and back again

Sixth-Grade Students  
LODI CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Hi, my name is Shakira. My home was the Mokelumne River Fish Hatchery. I was captured along with my sisters and brothers. I was later put in a clear container with lots of eyeballs staring at me and lots of noise. I came out of my membrane on January 28, 2024. When I came out, I tossed and turned all over the place. All I could see were eggs. They were moving! Are they going to come out too?

When I, Solomon, started out as an egg, I was just there. I was surrounded by a membrane and could see people staring at me. I was in the gravel with all the other eggs. Over time I developed into an alevin. That's when I met my sister Shakira.

When I first hatched, I was in a tank. I had this weird yolk sack on my stomach. It was my food. After 12 days or so of hiding in the rocks, I started to swim. It was pretty cool. I got to go to the top of the fish tank with my friends, and then back down to the rocks. We practiced our swimming over and over again. Everyday my yolk sack

became smaller and smaller. Eventually, I didn't have one anymore, and I entered into the next stage of my life.

Shakira and I are beginning to grow into fry's! We are starting to get stripes. Our yolks are gone and we are hungry. Yikes, what's happening? Some people caught me, and put me in a bucket of water with my friends. Was it already time to go into the Mokelumne River?

I am so excited! Shakira and I, along with our friends, just got released into the Mokelumne River. Everything looks, smells, and feels so different. The water is fresh and running fast. Everywhere I look, there are fish. It's so weird out here from being in that small tank in the classroom. For all my days in the tank, I've been dreaming about my favorite superhero, Fishstick. I was swimming around and Fishstick came by! He saw me and asked if I wanted to be his fishy sidekick! Of course, I had to say yes, who wouldn't want to?

Oh, we had to hide, something was after us! Sadly, Fishstick didn't make it. Something shiny caught his eye. He thought it was food, and disappeared.

As the days went by, Solomon and I (Shakira) kept swimming. The water was starting to smell different. It was becoming salty. My scales were changing color, too. They turned from a dark color to a silver color.

Each day we ate our favorite foods; crustaceans, mollusks, and insects. When we ate them, we had to hide, so that we wouldn't get eaten by hawks, river otters and other fish. Finally, we made it to the ocean. I was so excited! I felt like a big fish swimming in this huge salty water.

The first thing I, Solomon, did in the ocean was explore. The problem was that I had to get past a great white shark. He tried to eat me up for dinner, but I said, "No thanks." I juked him out and swam right past him. About four years later, I almost got caught in a fishing net. Luckily, I escaped.

Then one day, I began to have a weird feeling that it was time to go back up to my home river to spawn. As I left the ocean I swam into a bay. It gradually became less salty as I swam against the current. I recognized

the smell of the water. After I swam through the Delta, I came to a river. Since I left the ocean, I hadn't eaten and became very weak.

There were two rivers that came into the Delta. The river to the left did not smell like my home river, but the river to my right did.

My snout is getting longer and my body is turning red.

When I got to the right place in my home river, the Mokelumne River, I saw my sister Shakira!

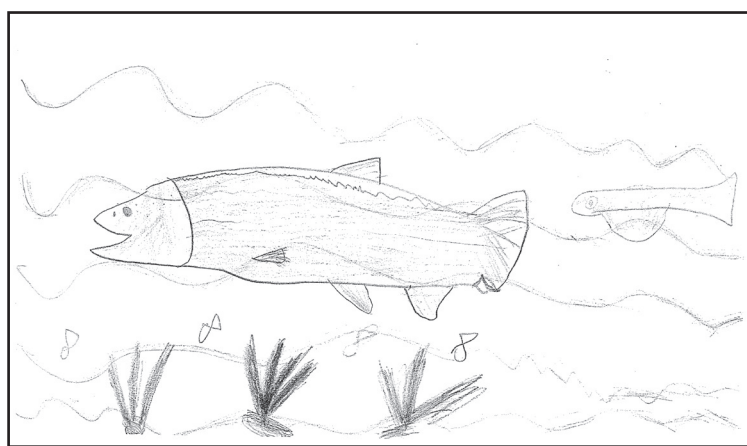
When I saw Solomon, we waved and then left each other. It was good to know that we both survived. I found some thick gravel in a place where the river water ran swiftly. I dug a nest called a redd. Then I chose a mate. I laid my eggs and my mate released his milt to fertilize the eggs. After I covered the eggs with gravel, my mate and I protected the eggs. All the energy instantly drained out of me. The journey and laying my eggs must have taken it all. I can't eat! I can't do anything else anymore. I'm even starting to lose my balance.

"Goodbye eggs. Have a good trip in life someday."

## Salmon Swimming in the River



JAYSE KING/VINEWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



JAPII SIDHU/BORCHARDT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## The Salmon

Christopher Eddy  
REESE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The salmon where their little eggs,  
Neighbored by 100 redds.  
Then they were picked up by a meaty hand,  
and went to a place with no gravel or sand.  
They grew up in a 10 gallon tank,  
And waited a while to be quite frank.  
They now hatched from their eggs and swam quite fast.  
And they had no idea about their future or early past.  
We released them with sadness and glum,  
But their journey is only for some.

## Salmon Cinquain

Hannah Daher  
ELKHORN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Chinook  
Wild, happy and free  
How they came from small eggs  
Oh how they are free in the wind and speed  
Lucky

## Alevin Haiku

Yahir Gomez  
HERITAGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

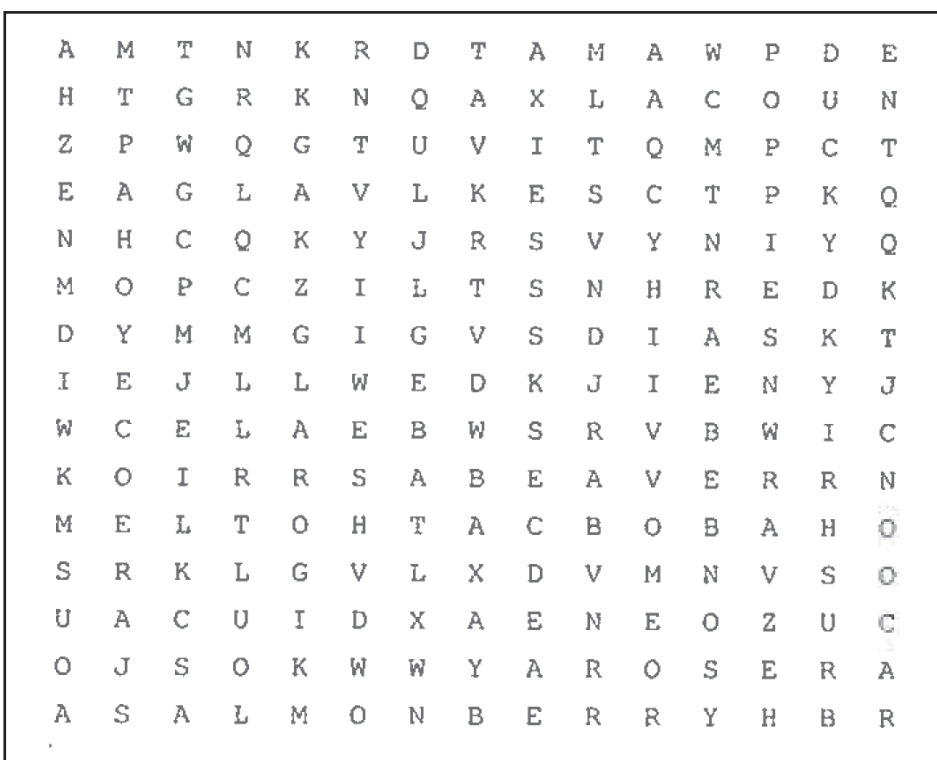
Swimming in water  
With a hanging small yolk sac  
These are alevin

## Cinquain

Jaylene Guerrero  
HERITAGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Salmon  
Beautiful, fascinating  
Hurdling, swimming, devouring  
A salmon swimming gracefully  
Fish

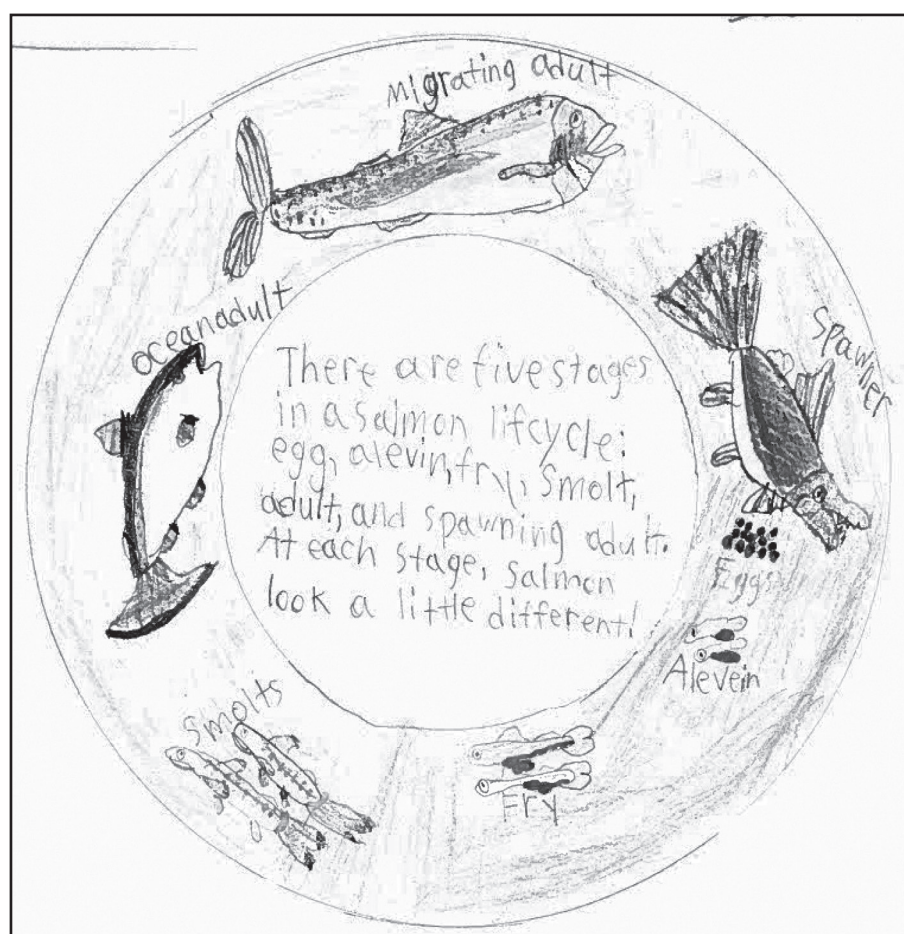
## Watershed Word Search



KALYNN KING-MONTEMAYOR/REESE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- |        |       |             |             |
|--------|-------|-------------|-------------|
| algae  | crane | oaktree     | skunk       |
| bear   | daisy | poppies     | waterlilies |
| beaver | deer  | rose        | willow      |
| bobcat | duck  | salmon      |             |
| brush  | hawk  | salmonberry |             |

## Salmon Life Cycle



ZOE SHERWOOD-KEYSER/REESE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL