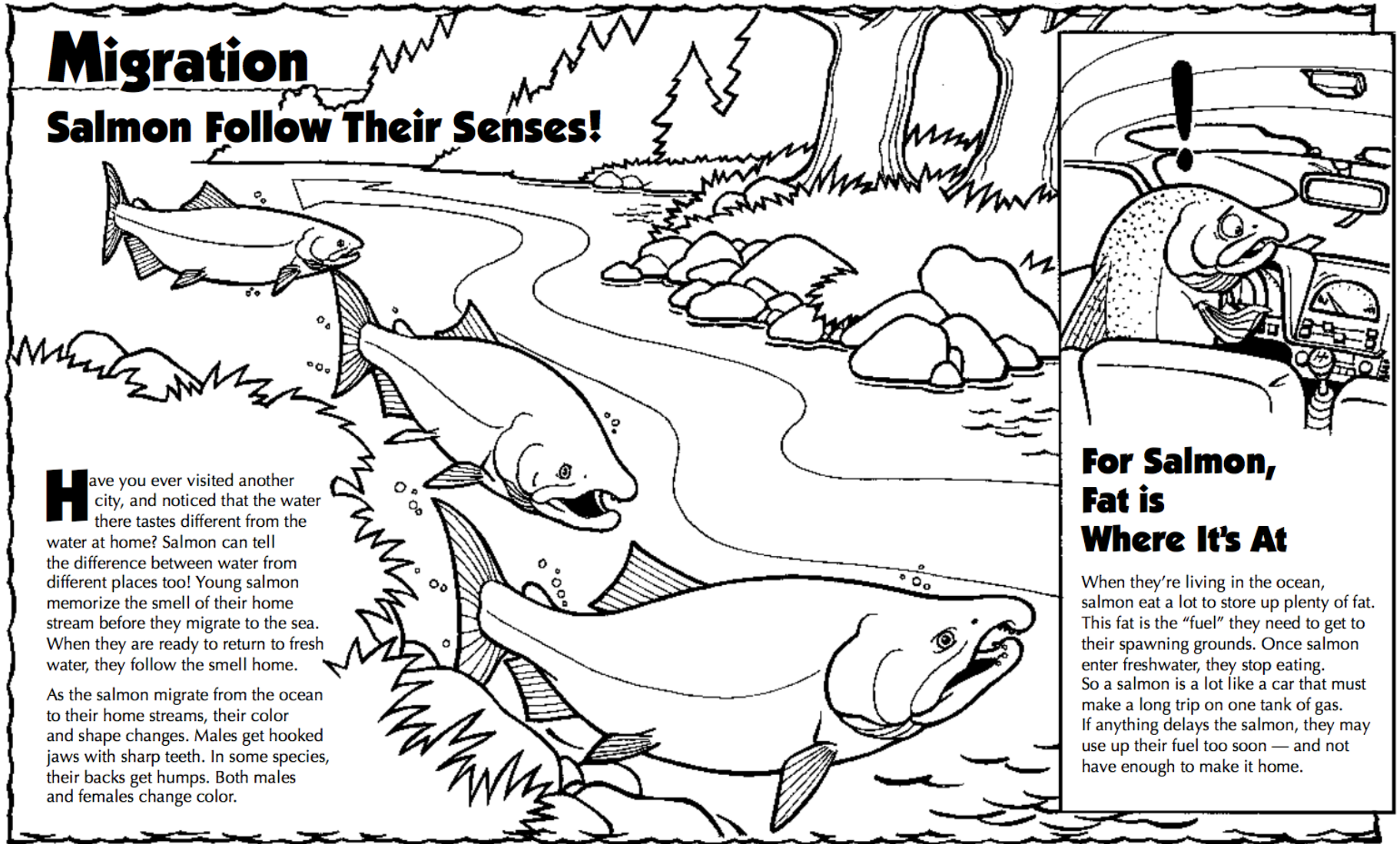


Migration

Salmon Follow Their Senses!

Have you ever visited another city, and noticed that the water there tastes different from the water at home? Salmon can tell the difference between water from different places too! Young salmon memorize the smell of their home stream before they migrate to the sea. When they are ready to return to fresh water, they follow the smell home.

As the salmon migrate from the ocean to their home streams, their color and shape changes. Males get hooked jaws with sharp teeth. In some species, their backs get humps. Both males and females change color.



For Salmon, Fat is Where It's At

When they're living in the ocean, salmon eat a lot to store up plenty of fat. This fat is the "fuel" they need to get to their spawning grounds. Once salmon enter freshwater, they stop eating. So a salmon is a lot like a car that must make a long trip on one tank of gas. If anything delays the salmon, they may use up their fuel too soon — and not have enough to make it home.