

Outdoor Recreation

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Outdoor Education

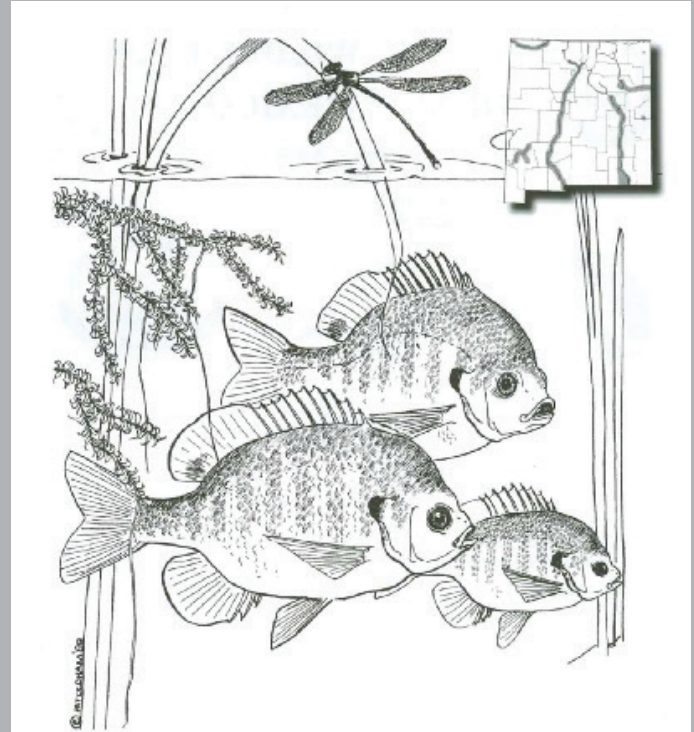
Learning by Coloring - Bluegill

Grade level:

Pre-K to 4th

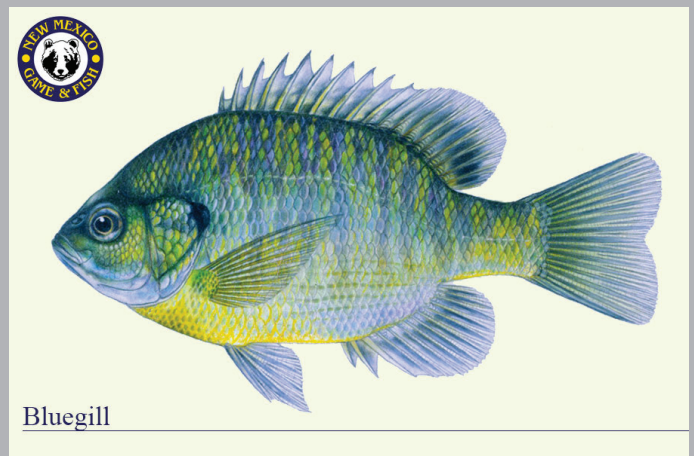
Objective:

Learn about bluegill in New Mexico by coloring the following illustration while reading about its importance and why it was transplanted throughout New Mexico in the 1930's. Anglers can find feisty, 5-to-7-inch bluegill in almost any warm New Mexico waters. An iridescent blue color on the lower jaw and gill cover gives the bluegill its common name. With a rounded flat body, small mouth, and olive-brown back the bluegill has 5-to-9 indistinct vertical double bars along its sides.



Bluegill

Colorful bluegills are 5-7 inches in length and live together in "schools" in almost any of New Mexico's warm waters. During the summer, bluegills lay their eggs in shallow underwater holes. The holes are scooped out and then guarded by the males. Male bluegills make grunt like sounds to attract females to these nests, which are usually found in groups. This native species was transplanted throughout New Mexico in the 1930's.



Bluegill



New Mexico Department of Game and Fish

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