



Assessment Rubric

Module 4: Salmon in Alaska

Question 1: Name the five types of salmon in Alaska.

Rubric Score	Description
3	Student correctly names all five types of salmon in Alaska. Either common name for each fish is acceptable (e.g., <i>red</i> or <i>sockeye</i>).
2	Student correctly names three or four types of salmon in Alaska.
1	Student correctly names one or two types of salmon in Alaska.
0	Student does not correctly name any types of salmon in Alaska OR student did not answer the question.

Question 2: Look at the image of this silver (coho) salmon. Identify one adaptation and explain how it helps the salmon survive.

Rubric Score	Description
3	Student answer demonstrates a thorough understanding of salmon adaptations (e.g., student identifies one adaptation and logically explains how it helps the salmon survive).
2	Student answer demonstrates a basic understanding of salmon adaptations (e.g., student identifies one adaptation and provides a mostly logical explanation for how it helps the salmon survive).
1	Student answer demonstrates a minimal understanding of salmon adaptations (e.g., student identifies one adaptation but does not provide an explanation for how it helps the salmon survive).
0	Student answer demonstrates no understanding of salmon adaptations OR student did not answer the question.



Question 3: Why do salmon need different habitats (freshwater streams and lakes, estuaries, ocean) during different parts of their life cycle?

Rubric Score	Description
3	Student answer demonstrates a thorough understanding of salmon habitat needs during the different parts of their life cycle.
2	Student answer demonstrates a basic understanding of salmon habitat needs during the different parts of their life cycle.
1	Student answer demonstrates a minimal understanding of salmon habitat needs during the different parts of their life cycle.
0	Student answer demonstrates no understanding of salmon habitat needs during the different parts of their life cycle OR student did not answer the question.

Question 4: Riparian ecosystems with waterways that support salmon are called *salmon forests*.

- Why are riparian ecosystems important for salmon?
- Why are salmon important for riparian ecosystems?

Rubric Score	Description
3	Student answer demonstrates a thorough understanding of the relationship between salmon and riparian ecosystems (e.g., student provides multiple examples of how salmon benefit from riparian ecosystems and how riparian ecosystems benefit from salmon).
2	Student answer demonstrates a basic understanding of the relationship between salmon and riparian ecosystems (e.g., student provides at least one example of how salmon benefit from riparian ecosystems and how riparian ecosystems benefit from salmon).
1	Student answer demonstrates a minimal understanding of the relationship between salmon and riparian ecosystems (e.g., student provides vague examples or student does not answer how both salmon and riparian ecosystems benefit).
0	Student answer demonstrates no understanding of the relationship between salmon and riparian ecosystems OR student did not answer the question.