SALMONIDS IN THE CLASSROOM: SALMON DISSECTION



DIGESTIVE SYSTEM

- Observe the digestive system by gently pushing a probe (8" spoon handle or chopstick) through the mouth and into the stomach.
- The digestive system is shorter and simpler than in mammals. Because fish are cold-blooded they do not use as much energy to keep warm and do not need as much energy from their food so they expel it more quickly.



Stomach

• The stomach breaks down food with digestive juices.



Pyloric Caeca

• The pyloric caeca absorbs nutrients into the blood. It is similar to the small intestine in people.



Spleen

• The spleen is a storehouse of blood for emergencies and recycles worn-out red blood cells.



1. Remove the stomach by cutting it away at the throat and gently pulling.



2. Remove the complete digestive system and intestines, which end at the vent.



3. Most food is absorbed in the intestine, the tube-like section at the end of the digestive system.