

Hey kids! Be in the wild

Chain Pickerel

A lean, long and evil-eyed bandit



Age

- Lives as long as nine years. (Four years is average.)

Size

- Grows to be 60 centimetres long. That's a long fish!

What it looks like

- Green-brown in colour.
- A long snout.
- Sharp teeth.
- Has markings that look like a chain-link fence. Great camouflage!

Interesting facts

- A born hunter.
- Hides in plants under water and pounces quickly on its prey.
- A good sport fish.
- Can also be caught by ice fishing.

Where it lives

- Lives in our western and southern lakes and streams.
- The young fish hides close to shore among the water weeds for its first summer.

How it raises its young

- Does not build nests or guard its young.
- The mother fish lays as many as 8 000 eggs.
- The eggs stick to underwater plants and hatch in one or two weeks.

Who eats whom?

- Likes to eat other fish. (It is able to eat another pickerel almost as long as itself.)
- If life is too crowded, it simply eats its neighbours.
- Good to eat – although it may taste weedy in the summertime.