

Hey kids! Be in the wild

Burbot

A freshwater cod that stays awake at night.

Age

Size

What it looks like

Interesting facts

Where it lives

How it raises its young

Who eats whom?



- Lives as long as 20 years.
- Grows to be 90 centimetres long.
- A long round body and one single whisker on its chin.
- This whisker, called a 'barbel', is the burbot's hand. It uses it to 'touch'.
- Is coloured tan to dark brown, and has dark spots.
- A large mother fish can produce almost a million eggs.
- Can travel a long ways – As far as 125 kilometres.
That's as far as the road between:
 - Edmundston and Campbellton
 - Fredericton and St. Stephen.
- Likes to live in deep lakes and cool streams. It hides in weeds and under rocks and fallen trees.
- Found mainly in deeper lakes of the Saint John, Magaguadavic and St. Croix watersheds.
- Spawns under the ice in the middle of winter. This happens at night.
- No nests are built. The fish move as a group over the rocky lake or stream bottom. As the eggs are dropped, they sink slowly to the bottom.
- The young hatch in 30 days. They grow quickly in their first four years of life.
- Tasty... and good for you... but not a popular fish.
- Young burbot mainly eats insects.
- When it is older, it will enjoy eating other fish.