

THE MAGAZINE for YOUNG ANGLERS and CONSERVATIONISTS.



RISING TIDE



**MAKE IT!
EDIBLE
FISH
TANK**



Freaky
COOL
FALL
FLOUNDER



PLUS
Your Photos & Fun Activities!

RISING TIDE

THE MAGAZINE for YOUNG ANGLERS and CONSERVATIONISTS

The largest marine conservation group of its kind, Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) is a non-profit organization made up of 17 coastal state chapters. CCA has been active in almost every national fisheries debate for decades and has been a driving force in state and federal fisheries management issues.

With your continued support, CCA will continue to battle for the health and longevity of our coastal fisheries and for recreational anglers' interests in them.

Editor and Designer Heather Peterek

Consulting Editors Pat Murray

Ted Venker



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ON THE COVER:
Angler Dane Villadsen shows off his big fall flounder caught in Sabine Lake, Texas.
Photo by Chester Moore

What's inside?

Kids Fishin'

Kids from all over the nation show off their trophies.

2

Fishermen Superstitions

Fourteen things some fishermen believe could help or hurt their fishing trips.

4

You Lucky Dolphin

It's good luck when a dolphin follows your boat, but what makes them do it?

5

Freaky Cool Flounder

All about this cool flatfish of Fall. - By Chester Moore

6

Activities and Games

Test your skills and solve fun puzzles!

8

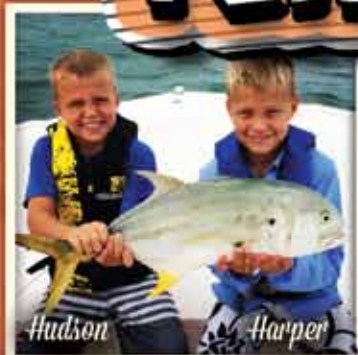
MORE Kids Fishin'

More kids from all over the nation show off their trophies.

10



CHECK OUT OUR... KIDS FISHIN'



Hudson

Harper



Gates



Debra



Darian



Gage



Cody



Angela



Brock



Carson



Christian

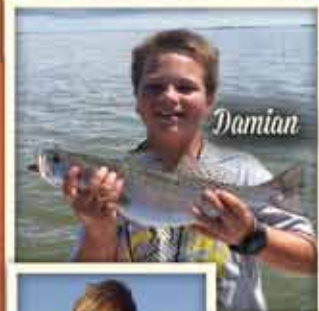
Nicolas

Julian

J.R.



Isaac



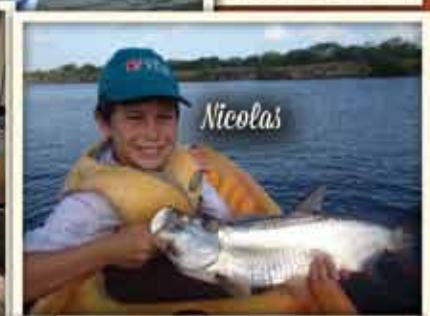
Damian



Casey



Rachel



Nicolas



Matthew



Kinley



Whitley



Morgan



Neal

14 Fishermen SUPERSTITIONS

Don't look back once your ship has left port as this can bring bad luck.

2

Bananas bring bad luck to fishing and could mean disaster for the trip.

1



Silver dollars are put underneath the mast when a boat is being built to bring good luck.

4



Flowers are unlucky onboard a ship.

3



Fishermen throw quarters over their shoulders to "buy up" some wind when crews are overworked.

5



Saying the words "alligator" or "pig" bring bad luck.

7



A dog seen near fishing tackle is bad luck.

6



It is bad luck to see an albatross or hear a loon cry.

8



The best day to start a trip is on a Sunday, "Sunday sail, never fails."

9



Black cats are considered good luck and will bring a sailor home from the sea.

10



Cutting your hair or nails at sea is bad luck.

11



Dolphins swimming with the ship are a sign of good luck.

12

If you play a guitar, the fish will come to the surface because they love the music.

13



If you carry a fishing pole into the house before a fishing trip you will not catch any fish.

14

IT'S GOOD LUCK!

→ → *But WHY do they do it?*

food

A ship full of humans is often an excellent opportunity for a snack. Whether its tourists out at sea who might throw a fish overboard in the hopes of seeing a dolphin or a fishing vessel with packed nets, a boat can make an attractive target for a pod of hungry dolphins. It's likely that over time, they've learned from experience that where there are humans, there is also food.

power

Dolphins often ride the wake of a boat in order to move quickly through the water while exerting less effort. Similar to the way a surfer catches a wave, a dolphin can ride a boat wake for a bit of forward momentum that enables it to travel great distances without having to do as much of the work. A large wake gives a dolphin plenty of power to use while it travels from one location to the next.

curiosity

Because dolphins are so intelligent, they are more courageous and curious than many other animals. Dolphins will approach unfamiliar objects and creatures to learn about them, unless they have a negative association with the item or creature in question. Dolphins may swim alongside boats simply to sate their curiosity as to what the boat is, who is on it and what it's up to.

fun

Dolphins love to have fun. Whether it's jumping into the air, cruising through the water at high speed or interacting with other sea life, dolphins have shown fun-loving behavior that indicates many things they do are simply for enjoyment's sake. Dolphins may enjoy using the wake from a boat as a speed boost, and they could also enjoy seeing boats and other vessels where they aren't normally seen.

Freaky COOL

FISH OF THE FALL

By Chester Moore, Jr.

Since I was a little boy, I have been interested in strange creatures and flounder are super strange.

Unlike most fish, they are flat. Flat like a pancake in fact, and they use this to their advantage by hiding in the sand and mud and waiting for their prey to swim by so they can attack.

Both of their eyes are on the same side of the body, but they are born with eyes set apart like normal fish. Early in their life, these eyes gradually move to one side.

Weird, huh??





Where Did He Go?!

If that's not strange enough, flounder will adapt their color to the bottom they hide in and can show bright white spots when stressed. Sometimes they use the white spots to break up their pattern on the bottom as a kind of camouflage.

Flounder are a small to medium-sized fish with the world record southern flounder weighing 20 pounds, 9 ounces. This huge flatfish was caught in Florida.

Most are much smaller and most anglers consider a five pound fish to be a really big one.

Fall is the best time to catch flounder because they leave from the bay systems and marshes to the Gulf of Mexico to spawn. They use fish "passes" to move between these key points.

A pass acts like a funnel and is usually a stretch of ship channel linking the Gulf and bays. Flounder can be caught along the shorelines, from piers and also fishing in deeper water. When cold fronts blow through, they push flounder out toward the Gulf so this the best time to try and fish for them.

The most popular baits for flounder are live mud minnows and small mullet dragged slowly across the bottom. Flounder will hit the bait and hold onto it for a bit before swallowing. It is best to wait at least 10 seconds before setting the hook, so if you feel a "thump" begin your countdown.

Since flounder congregate in groups ranging from a few individuals to several dozen, especially during migration, make lots of casts. Try to cover every square inch of key flounder habitat in a given area. Throw to one spot; then, throw a foot or two over with your next cast until you've covered the entire area. It often pays to work the

same spots over twice. You may miss the exact spot by a few inches. Since flounder will sit in one spot a long time, you must cover lots of ground.

Flounder are one of the best tasting fish in the ocean. They are excellent baked, grilled and fried. It is good however to release the really big ones because they are females and produce many eggs that produce lots of flounder. A good practice is to keep the smaller, legal-sized fish and put back the big ones.

Flounder have big, sharp teeth so be careful when handling them. They use them to capture the baitfish they like to eat as they sit on the bottom, seemingly hiding from the other fish in their own unique world on the bottom of our bays.

Chester Moore is the founder of the Kingdom Zoo: Education Center. You can learn more at www.kingdomzoo.com. He is also Editor-In-Chief of CCA's partner Texas Fish & Game.



Sharp Teeth, GULCH!

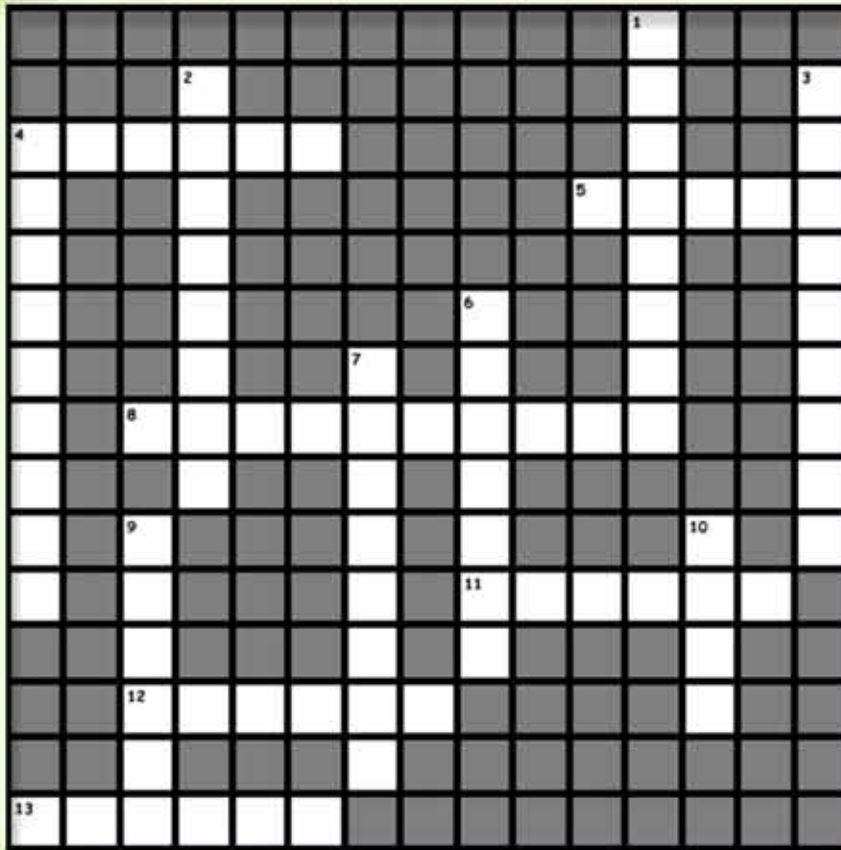


CAN YOU FIND THE FLOUNDER?

Flounder are the masters of disguise!

There are 14 of different sizes hiding on the
bay bottom....*can you find them all?*

ACTIVITY TIME!



GENERAL KNOWLEDGE FISH CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 4 The body covering of most fish.
- 5 This shark is the largest fish.
- 8 An animal with a backbone.
- 11 This bony fish can live in both fresh and salt water.
- 12 The fin on the back of a fish.
- 13 The paired fins on the underside of a fish.

DOWN

- 1 The slowest swimming fish.
- 2 A common flatfish.
- 3 The gill cover of a fish.
- 4 The most poisonous fish.
- 6 The longest bony fish.
- 7 The fins on the side of a fish.
- 9 Another name for the tail fin of a fish.
- 10 The smallest fish.

INGREDIENTS

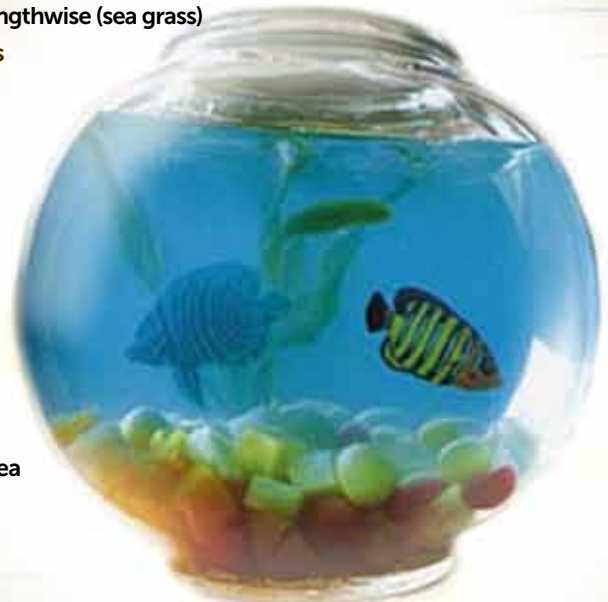
- 1 small fish bowl
- 4 cups white cranberry juice
- 3 .25-ounce envelopes unflavored gelatin
- 1 to 3 drops blue food coloring
- Green and red grapes (sea floor)
- Green chewing gum, thinly sliced lengthwise (sea grass)
- Candy or plastic fish or sea creatures

DIRECTIONS

**Have an adult help you with steps 1 and 2!*

1. Place 1 cup of the juice in a bowl; sprinkle with the gelatin and let stand for 2 minutes. In a small saucepan, bring the remaining 3 cups of juice to a boil.
2. Pour the hot juice over the gelatin mixture and stir until the gelatin is dissolved. Add the food coloring to get the desired color. Let cool to room temperature.
3. Add grapes to the bottom of our fish bowl, then slowly pour the gelatin water mixture into your fish bowl.
5. Carefully place your gum pieces into the gelatin, sticking out from the grapes, like sea grass coming out of the sea floor.
6. Refrigerate until firm.
7. Before serving, use a small knife to make vertical cuts in the gelatin and insert your fish with the tip of a wooden skewer. (If you're using candy fish, they might dissolve if you put them in too early before serving.)

EDIBLE AQUARIUM *Try This!*



MORE KIDS FISHIN'

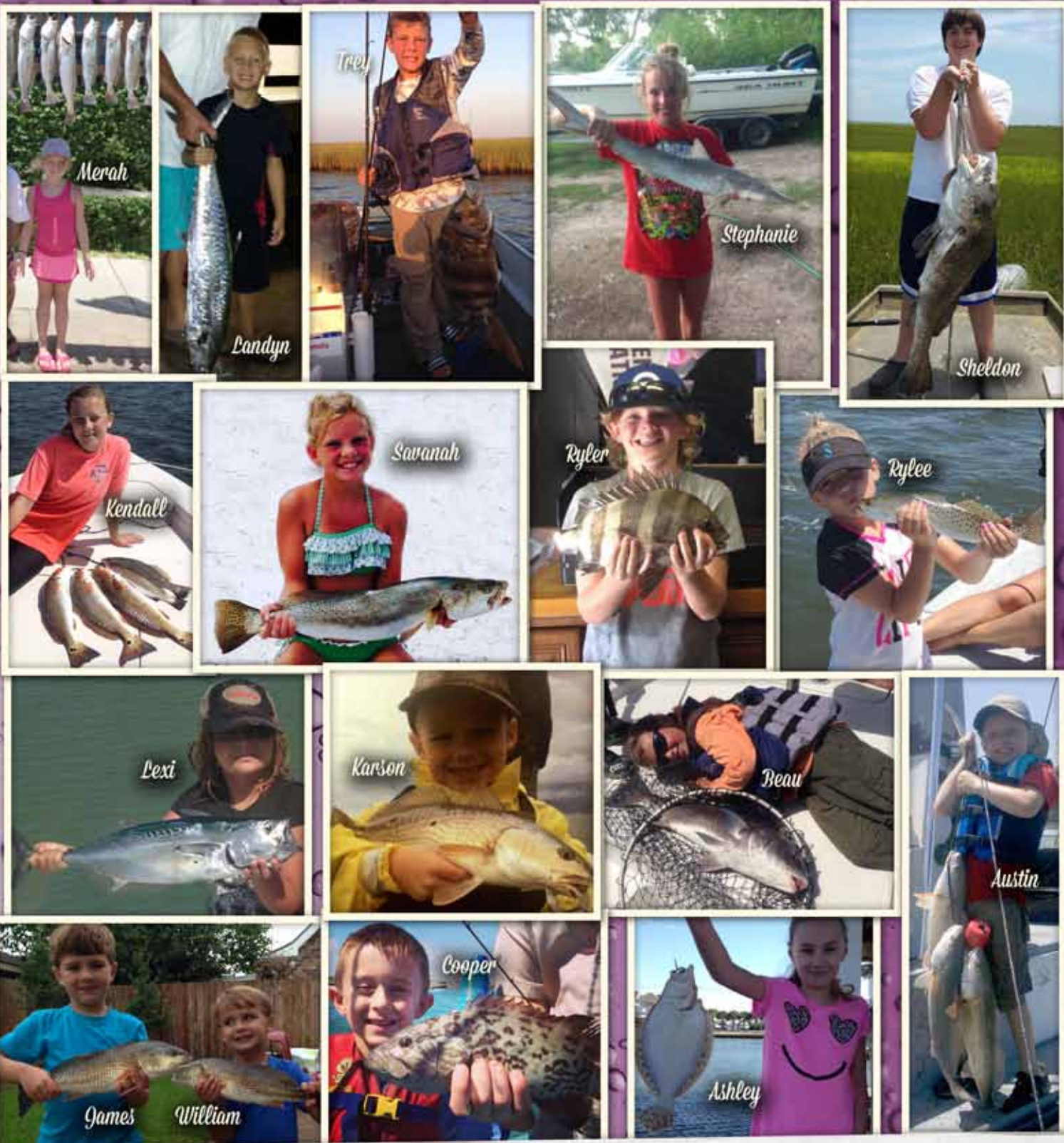
**DO YOU HAVE A GREAT
CATCH THAT COULD MAKE
OUR KIDS FISHIN' PAGE?**

To submit photos, have your parents:

1. Email to photos@joincca.org OR
2. Share on Facebook at [Facebook.com/CCANational](https://www.facebook.com/CCANational)

* There are a lot of kids fishin' out there and while we try our best to get everyone's photo published, we cannot guarantee yours will be printed.





**Thank you
Valero!**

CCA & Valero Continue
Youth Partnership


Because of the generous support of Valero,
the Rising Tide Youth Program will
continue to thrive!

"Since the 2007 launch of the Rising Tide Youth Program, more children than ever are participating in community projects, local and statewide tournaments and in the conservation of coastal resources," said Pat Murray, president of CCA. "But, there is still work to do, and Valero's generous sponsorship will allow us to continue focusing on the future of marine conservation through our youth programs."



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6919 Portwest Drive, Suite 100 | Houston, Texas 77024
p 713.626.4234 | f 713.626.5852 | www.joincca.org

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At Valero, we're proud to be America's largest refiner, producing everything from gasoline to jet fuel. But we're also one of the nation's most environmentally responsible refiners, too. We think the Coastal area is one of the most important regions in the United States, and we want to help keep it that way. That's why we are proud to sponsor the Rising Tide newsletter. Inside, you'll find lots of interesting information, and you'll discover the fascinating world underwater.

We hope that with what you learn, you will grow up just as determined as we are to help protect one of our most valuable natural resources: the Coastal area of our United States.

