

# Catfish

Alabama Agriculture in the Classroom  
Summer Institute 2002  
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# Mastering Math the Catfish Way

**Objective:** Students will practice math problem-solving skills

1. James and his sister, Megan, went fishing one Saturday afternoon James caught 8 catfish and Megan caught 15. How many more catfish did Megan catch than James?
2. Will spent his spring break fishing. On Monday he caught 2 catfish, Tuesday 5 catfish, Wednesday it rained all day, Thursday he caught 9 catfish, and on Friday he caught 7 catfish. How many catfish did he catch in all?
3. Mr. Jones has three catfish ponds He has 199 catfish in the first, 178 in the second, and 205 in the third. How many catfish does he have in all?
4. Two herons spend a week at Jake's catfish pond. On Monday they eat 18 fish, Tuesday-12 fish, Wednesday -15 fish, Thursday-9 fish, Friday 10 fish, Saturday 6 fish. On Sunday they flyaway. How many fish did they eat during the week? How many more fish did they eat on Monday than on Saturday?
5. Mrs. Flowers has 590 catfish fingerlings (3" fish) delivered to her farm. She put 295 in the first pond and the rest in the second pond. How many fish were put in the second pond?
6. Nine Great Blue Herons land at Mr. Smith's catfish farm. If each one eats six fish, how many fish do they eat all together?
7. Mr. Townsend orders floating feed for his catfish from the Ace Fish Supply Company. If he purchases 500 pounds in April, 625 pounds in May, and 775 pounds in June, how much does he buy all together.
8. Mrs. Jakes has 486 catfish. If she sells half of them in July, how many does she have left?
9. Green Acres Catfish Farm has 1,380 catfish fingerlings delivered If they are divided equally among the farm's four ponds, how many fingerlings will there be in each pond?
10. The largest catfish pond on Mr. Alison's farm is 150 feet long and 90 feet wide. What is the perimeter of the pond?

Answer Key: 1) 7 more catfish; 2) 23 catfish in all; 3) 582 fish in all; 4) 70 fish, 12 more; 5) 295 fingerlings; 6) 54 catfish; 7) 1,900 lbs.; 8) 243 catfish left; 9) 345 fish in each pond 10) perimeter: 480 feet.

# CATFISH WORD SEARCH

H T E M T X D D L C A K Y V F  
G A E F A R M I N G J D V I L  
N N R M E A L S Y N U V N N E  
I P E V P K L E Z D A G N O N  
D O K G E E T G X F E Q G I N  
E N C U Y S R U A R P W F T A  
E D G X Z X T I L E F S O A H  
F S D G D U O I N B F O A R C  
H C L Z S S N B H G X T D E S  
S H X O X G T V G S U J Z A M  
K W T O S H G O A Y I V U C R  
S B T S X S D N C X X F K U H  
D E H S R E T A W K L D T S J  
E D I X O I D N O B R A C A U  
K N U T R I E N T S D L U X C

**Find and circle the following words.**

**AERATION  
CATFISH  
FEEDING  
NUTRIENTS  
STOCK**

**ALGAE  
CHANNEL  
FINGERLINGS  
OXYGEN  
TEMPERING**

**CARBON DIOXIDE  
FARMING  
HARVEST  
PONDS  
WATERSHED**

**HINT:** They may appear up, down, forwards, backwards or across the diagonal.

# Useful Catfish Vocabulary

**aerator** -a pump that cools the pond water and increases the amount of available oxygen during hot weather.

**algae** -small plants that grow in fresh or salt water; algae take in carbon dioxide and produce oxygen for the fish.

**feeding** -catfish are fed a special feed purchased by the farmer. The soybean-based feed has corn, vitamins and other nutrients added to it. Some farmers use a floating food so they can check on their catfish when they come to the surface to eat. Catfish are only fed once weekly in winter because this is the time of year when growth is slower.

**fingerlings** -small catfish, several inches in length.

**harvest** -gather catfish together for sale. Catfish are frequently harvested in large, weighted nets called seines when they are about 18 months old and weigh 1-2 pounds.

**pond** -a body of standing water, usually smaller than a lake. Catfish ponds are most often built over clay soil and filled with fresh water pumped from underground wells. An average pond covers about 2-10 acres and is 4-6 feet in depth.

**stock** -to put young fish (fingerlings) into a pond.

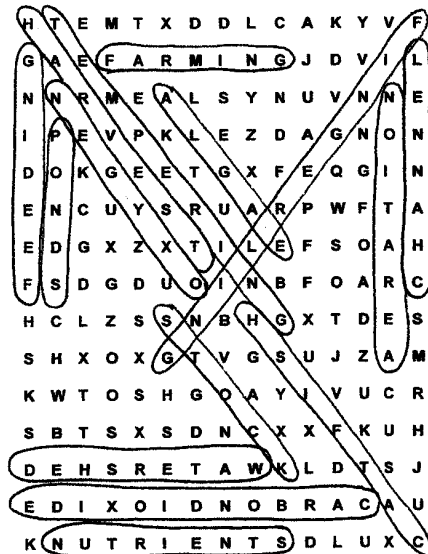
## Interested in Raising Catfish in your Classroom!

- ⇒ Looking for a different type of science experience for your students?
- ⇒ Do you have an old fish tank that's gathering dust?

***Would you like more information about catfish?***

Contact the Alabama Fish Farming Center  
(334) 624-4016

## CATFISH WORD SEARCH



*Catfish*  
*Paper Bag*  
*Puppet*

