

Ice Fishing Game

Play an ice fishing game and discover some interior Alaska fish!

Materials Needed:

Fish Templates printable (or draw your own), paper clips, large magnet*, wooden dowel or pencil, string, scissors, colored pencils or crayons

Optional: Large cardboard box.

Caution: Adult supervision required. Magnets are hazardous if swallowed. Use a large, low-attraction fridge or donut magnet to do this activity safely with young children. As an alternative to magnets, attach large loops of ribbon to the string.

Instructions:

Step 1 Assemble the fish: Cut out the fish templates along the dotted lines.



Ice Fishing in Alaska

Ice fishing is both a subsistence and recreation activity in Interior Alaska. Ice fishing is possible on rivers and lakes when the ice is thick enough to support the weight of people, cars, and fishing huts. Below are some of the fish that can be caught while ice fishing.

Burbot fishing image: Alaska Department of Fish & Game.

Hatchery-raised Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) are stocked in lakes for fishing for the summer and winter seasons. Other stocked fish include coho salmon, arctic char, and rainbow trout.

Chinook salmon.
Image: Wikimedia Commons.

Burbot (*Lota lota*) are a slow-growing fish and the only freshwater cod in North America. They spawn in the late fall and winter, under the ice.

Burbot. Image: Alaska Department of Fish & Game.

Northern pike (*Esox lucius*) provide a winter subsistence resource in some areas, such as the Minto Flats. Their preferred habitats are shallow

Ice Fishing Templates

Note: Images are not to scale.

