

**Theme:** Rivers, Lakes & Streams/Fishing (for fishing opener)

**YouTube Playlist:** [https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLFTw3dKr7K0tprqHA4pe\\_KpbZIRKllpay](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLFTw3dKr7K0tprqHA4pe_KpbZIRKllpay)

**Greeting/Gathering Song:** Music, Music, Music

**Moving:** (Sittin' On) the Dock of Bay

The original Otis Redding version of this song is a perfect tempo for some gentle stretching. You can also do some breath work by breathing in for 4 counts, then out for 4 counts. Then try increasing to 8 counts in, then out. You can use the same pacing for your movements – raising/lowering arms/legs, bringing arms in/out, etc.

**Singing:**

Crawdad Song

*Discussion*

This folksong is based on an African-American song called “Sweet Thing”, and was part of “play parties” in the south where people would gather to make music together, but dancing was prohibited for religious reasons. It is also thought to have been sung by workers who were building levees in the south to help prevent flooding of the Mississippi River, but the first time it appeared in print was in a 1917 collection of songs by Cecil Sharp.

Did you like to go fishing? Who would you go with? What kind of bait did you use? What type of fish did you hope to catch? Did you keep them, or release them? Eat them?

Take a look at some pictures of common Minnesota fish (attached) and see if you can name what kind they are.

Fishin' Hole (Andy Griffith theme song)

*Discussion*

This song was composed as the theme song for the Andy Griffith show and was meant to sound simple. In fact, it took only about 15 minutes for the songwriting duo Earle Haen & Herbert Spencer to compose! On the show, the lyrics were omitted, and you just heard whistling.

Where did you like to go fishing? Was it a lake, a pond, a stream, or by the river? Did you fish from shore, a dock, or did you fish from a boat?

Once I Caught a Fish Alive

*Discussion*

This nursery rhyme dates all the way back to the collection of Mother Goose children’s rhymes published in 1765! This was the original version:

One, two, three, Four and five,  
I caught a hare alive;  
Six, seven, eight, Nine and ten,  
I let him go again.<sup>[1]</sup>

Using the more modern “fish alive” version, work together to compose a “counting backwards” verse.

Ten, nine, eight, seven, six

Once I \_\_\_\_\_

Five, four, three, two, one

Then I \_\_\_\_\_

(Hint: You can start by making a list of rhyming words for “six” and “one” to get the creative juices flowing)

Try singing it together to the tune.

### Cruisin’ Down the River on a Sunday Afternoon

#### *Discussion*

Written by two middle-aged women – Eily Beadell and Nell Tollerton – this song won a British songwriting competition in 1945. It became a big hit for Russ Morgan, where it spent 22 weeks on the Billboard charts. Allegedly the crew of the H.M.S. Amethyst sang this song as they made a historic dash down the Yangtze River in 1949 trying to escape from China, where they had been trapped for 3 months.

This song talks about cruisin’ down the river on a Sunday. What would you do on Sunday afternoon? Did you take a Sunday drive? A Sunday nap? Read the paper? How would you relax?

### Up a Lazy River

#### *Discussion*

If you listen to the music, the feel of the melody – slow and wavy – reflects the picture of a winding river that is illustrated in the lyrics. The song is the work of the team of Hoagy Carmichael, who wrote the lyrics and Sidney Arodin, who composed the melody.

In our area, we are lucky to have several rivers – the Mississippi, the Minnesota and the St. Croix are all major rivers that define geographic areas. Have you spent time on the rivers? Each river has its own personality – which do you think would best be described by the lyrics of this song? Why?

### **Listening/Watching** (See YouTube playlist)

Nitty Gritty Dirt Band – Fishin’ in the Dark

Down by the Riverside – featuring Grandpa Elliott/Playing for Change

Too Many Fish in the Sea – Mitch Ryder & the Detroit Wheels on American Bandstand 1967

Woody Guthrie – Talking Fishing Blues

Sittin’ Here Wishin’ I Could go Fishin’

Schubert – Die Forelle (the Trout) song

The Schubert Ensemble – 4<sup>th</sup> movement of the ‘Trout’ string quartet by Schubert

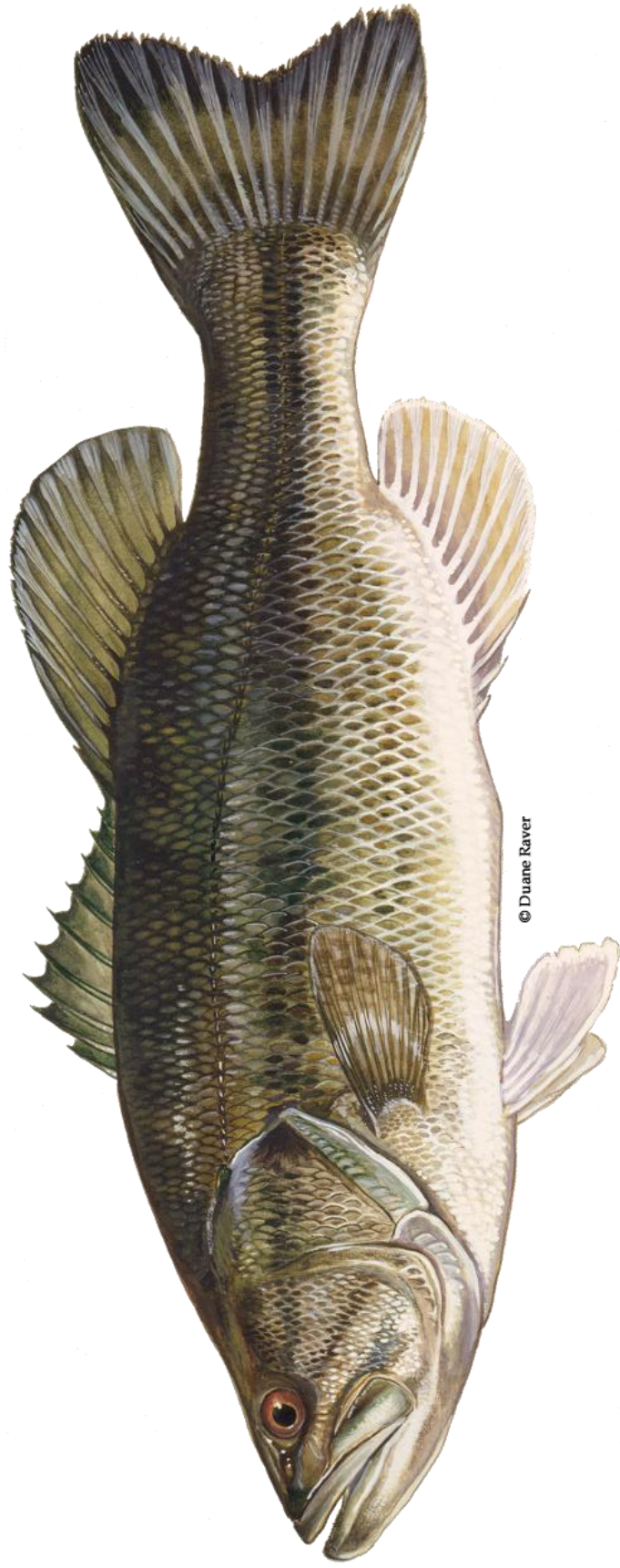
**Closing Song:** So Long it’s Been Good to Know Ya’



Sunfish (photo from MN DNR)



Crappie



© Duane Raver

Large Mouth Bass



roughfish.com

Perch



Walleye (photo from Rough Rock Lodge)



Northern Pike (Drawing by Timothy Knepp - [U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service National Image Library](#))



## **Music, Music, Music**

Put another nickel in  
In the nickelodeon  
All I want is loving you  
And music, music, music

Oh I'd do anything for you  
Anything you'd want me to  
All I want is kissing you  
And music, music, music

Closer, me dear come closer  
The nicest part of any melody  
Is when you're dancing close to me

Put another nickel in  
In the nickelodeon  
All I want is loving you  
And music, music, music

## Crawdad Song

You get a line and I'll get a pole, Honey  
You get a line and I'll get a pole, Babe  
You get a line and I'll get a pole  
We'll go fishin' in the crawdad hole  
Honey, Baby mine

Sittin' on the bank 'til my feet get cold, Honey  
Sittin' on the bank 'til my feet get cold, Babe  
Sittin' on the bank 'til my feet get cold  
Lookin' down that crawdad hole  
Honey, Baby mine

Yonder comes a man with a sack on his back, Honey  
Yonder comes a man with a sack on his back, Babe  
Yonder comes a man with a sack on his back  
Packin' all the crawdads he can pack  
Honey, Baby mine

The man fell down and he broke that sack, Honey  
The man fell down and he broke that sack, Babe  
The man fell down and he broke that sack  
See those crawdads backing back  
Honey, Baby mine

I heard the duck say to the drake, Honey  
I heard the duck say to the drake, Babe  
I heard the duck say to the drake  
There ain't no crawdads in this lake  
Honey, Baby mine

## Fishin' Hole

Well now, take down your fishing pole  
And meet me at the fishing hole  
We may not get a bite all day but don't you rush away  
What a great place to rest your bones  
And mighty fine for skipping stones  
You'll feel fresh as a lemonade a-setting in the shade  
Whether it's hot, whether it's cool  
Oh what a spot for whistling like a fool  
What a fine day to take a stroll  
    and wind up at the fishing hole  
I can't think of a better way to pass the time of day  
We'll have no need to call the roll  
When we get to the fishing hole  
They'll be you, me, and old dog,  
    Trey to do the time away  
If we don't hook a perch or bass  
We'll cool our toes in dewy grass  
Or else pull up a weed to chew  
And maybe sit and jaw  
Hanging around, taking our ease  
Watching that hound a scratching at his fleas  
I'm gonna take down my fishing pole  
And meet you at the fishing hole  
I can't think of a better way to pass the time of day

## Once I Caught a Fish Alive

One, two, three, four, five  
Once I caught a fish alive  
Six, seven, eight, nine, ten  
Then I let him go again  
Why did you let him go?  
Because he bit my finger so  
Which finger did he bite?  
This little finger on my right

## Cruisin' Down the River

Cruising down the river on a Sunday afternoon  
With one you love, the sun above waiting for the moon  
The old accordion playing a sentimental tune  
Cruising down the river on a Sunday afternoon  
The birds above all sing of love, a gentle sweet refrain  
The winds around all make a sound  
    like softly falling rain  
Just two of us together, we'll plan a honeymoon  
Cruising down the river on a Sunday afternoon

## Up a Lazy River

Up the lazy river by the old mill run  
The lazy, lazy river in the noon day sun  
Linger in the shade of a kind old tree  
Throw away your troubles dream a dream with me

Up a lazy river where the robin's song  
Awakes the bright new morning where we can move along  
Blue skies up above, everyone's in love  
Up a lazy river, how happy you could be  
Up a lazy river with me

## So Long, It's Been Good to Know Ya'

I've sung this song, but I'll sing it again  
Of the place that I lived on the wild, windy plains  
In the month called April, county called Gray  
And here's what all of the people there say

So long, it's been good to know yuh  
So long, it's been good to know yuh  
So long, it's been good to know yuh  
This dusty old dust is a-gettin' my home  
And I've got to be driftin' along

A dust storm hit, an' it hit like thunder  
It dusted us over, an' it covered us under  
Blocked out the traffic an' blocked out the sun  
Straight for home all the people did run, singin'

So long, it's been good to know yuh  
So long, it's been good to know yuh  
So long, it's been good to know yuh  
This dusty old dust is a-gettin' my home  
I've got to be driftin' along

We talked of the end of the world, and then  
We'd sing a song an' then sing it again  
We'd sit for an hour an' not say a word  
And then these words would be heard (*turn page*)

So long, it's been good to know yuh  
So long, it's been good to know yuh  
So long, it's been good to know yuh  
This dusty old dust is a-gettin' my home  
And I've got to be driftin' along

Sweethearts sat in the dark and sparked  
They hugged and kissed in that dusty old dark  
They sighed and cried, hugged and kissed  
Instead of marriage, they talked like this

Honey, so long, been good to know yuh  
So long, it's been good to know yuh  
So long, it's been good to know yuh  
This dusty old dust is a-gettin' our home  
And I've got to be driftin' along

Now, the telephone rang an' it jumped off the wall  
That was the preacher, a-makin' his call  
He said, "Kind friend, this may be the end  
An' you got your last chance of salvation of sin"

The churches was jammed and the churches was  
packed

An' that dusty old dust storm blowed so black  
Preacher could not read a word of his text  
An' he folded his specs an' he took up collection, said

*(turn page)*



So long, been good to know yuh  
So long, it's been good to know yuh  
So long, it's been good to know yuh  
This dusty old dust is a-gettin' my home  
And I've got to be driftin' along