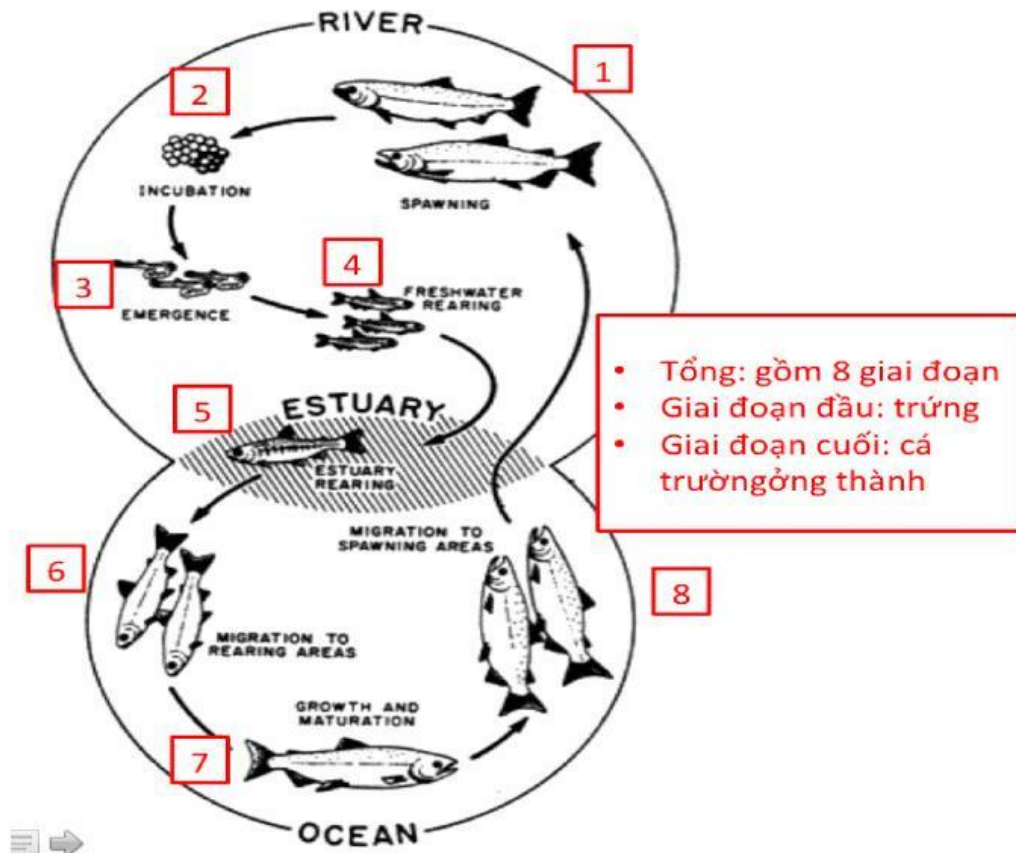


# NATURAL PROCESS: THE LIFE CYCLE OF A SALMON

The diagram below shows the life cycle of a salmon, from eggs to adult fish.



develop into  
incubated  
much bigger

development  
massive number of  
spawning areas

fully-grown  
migrating  
starting with

illustrates  
move downstream  
the appearance of

The diagram (1) \_\_\_\_\_ various stages in the (2) \_\_\_\_\_ of a salmon.

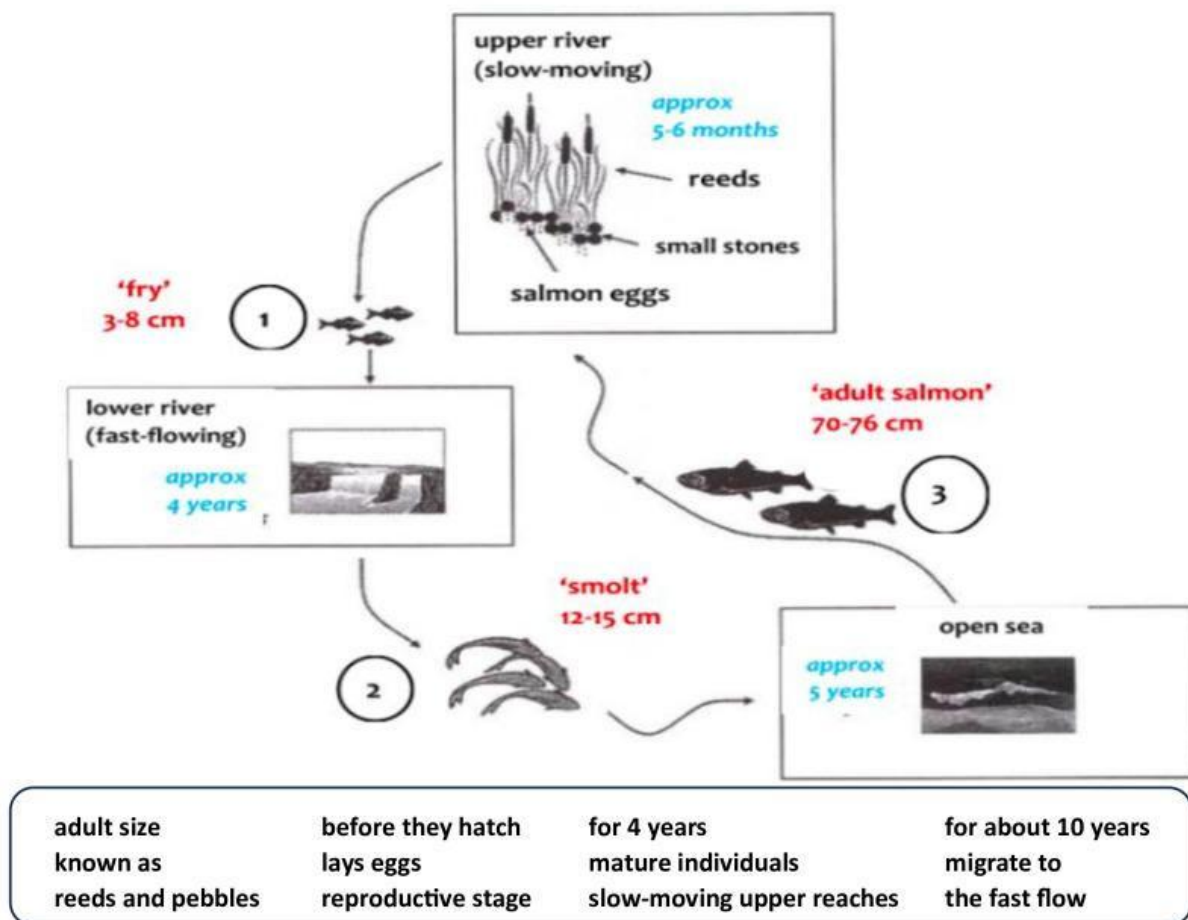
**Overall**, there are eight stages in the life cycle of the salmon, (3) \_\_\_\_\_ eggs and continuing until they become (4) \_\_\_\_\_ adults.

**At the first stage in the life cycle**, the female salmon chooses the best spot in rivers and lays a (5) \_\_\_\_\_ eggs, which are then (6) \_\_\_\_\_ before developing into tiny fish. At this point, the fish have a long tail and do not yet have (7) \_\_\_\_\_ a normal fish. **In the next stage**, the fish grow quickly in size and (8) \_\_\_\_\_ to freshwater areas, which are suitable for rearing, before (9) \_\_\_\_\_ to estuaries where they continue to be reared.

**At the following stage in the life cycle**, the young fish become (10) \_\_\_\_\_ and begin their journey to the ocean where they (11) \_\_\_\_\_ mature adult salmon. The adult fish migrate upstream to (12) \_\_\_\_\_ of rivers where they will mate and spawn, **and the life cycle starts again**.

# NATURAL PROCESS: THE LIFE CYCLE OF A SALMON

The process below shows the life cycle of a species of large fish called the salmon.



The diagram describes how salmon grow from eggs to (1)\_\_\_\_\_.

**Overall**, there are three main stages in the life cycle of salmon, starting with salmon eggs in the upper river and the complete cycle lasts (2)\_\_\_\_\_.

**Firstly**, salmon begins life as eggs in the (3)\_\_\_\_\_ of a river, surrounded by (4)\_\_\_\_\_. This shelter usually keeps the eggs safe for about five to six months (5)\_\_\_\_\_. The newborn fish normally called "fry" are very small, which are only three to eight centimeters long. The fry then follows (6)\_\_\_\_\_ to the lower river and stay there (7)\_\_\_\_\_ until they reach the length of twelve to fifteen centimeters. These grown fish are (8)\_\_\_\_\_ "smolt".

**At the next stage of the life cycle**, the 'smolt' (9)\_\_\_\_\_ the open sea. After approximately 5 years living in the ocean, these 'smolt' will have grown to (10)\_\_\_\_\_, which is about 70-76 centimeters. Their (11)\_\_\_\_\_ then begins as the mature salmon swims back to their birthplace and (12)\_\_\_\_\_. The salmon's life cycle starts again at the same place where it begins.