

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Brook trout

Salvelinus fontinalis

The brook trout is a freshwater fish native to eastern North America, known for its vibrant coloration and distinctive marbled patterning along the back and dorsal fin. It inhabits clear, cold, well-oxygenated streams and rivers.

Quick facts

Classification: Fish

Family: Salmonidae

Habitat: Cold, clear freshwater streams, rivers, and lakes

Diet: Carnivore

Conservation status: Least Concern

Lifespan: 3-6 years

Weight: 0.5–3 kg (1–6.5 lbs)

Scientific name: *Salvelinus fontinalis*

Did you know?

- Brook trout are so sensitive to water pollution and temperature changes that they are considered an indicator species for healthy freshwater ecosystems.
- Brook trout are actually a type of char, not a true trout. Their vibrant colors become more pronounced during spawning season. In some regions, brook trout are referred to as "rainbow trout".

What I learned
