

Brown Bullhead

A warm-water 'cat' with whiskers



Age

Size

What it looks like

Interesting facts

Where it lives

How it raises its young

Who eats whom?

- Lives for six-to-eight years.
- Grows to be 30 centimetres long.
- Dark brown on the back.
- A lighter colour on the side.
- A heavy round body, a wide head and square tail.
- Long cat-like whiskers.
- Is best fished with worms at dusk – but will accept old cheese.
- Lives on the bottom of shallow, weedy lakes – or slow-moving streams.
- Can bury itself in sand if the water is too dirty.
- A good parent. It digs its nest in late spring in a safe spot in the mud.
- Several thousand eggs are found in the nest.
- The mother and father take care of the eggs by fanning them with their tails.
- They also stir the eggs about with their whiskers.
- Looks like a tadpole when it hatches.
- Swims in a 'school' and is protected by its parents until it is about 5 centimetres long.
- Makes a good meal for the chain pickerel. But its sharp saw-toothed spines make it hard to swallow.
- Not a dainty eater. It feeds at nights using its whiskers to search for insects, fish eggs, fish and water plants.
- Tastes great!