Fish On! Card Game

Let's Get Ready!

This is an activity about sustainability. It imagines a pond with 12 fish. You choose how many fish to catch each day. Every night, each pair of fish who are still alive (regardless of gender) will have a baby fish, which will grow into an adult overnight. The cycle will repeat again and again.



For additional information, watch Tragedy of the Commons (YouTube 4:58).

And all this is just Part ONE of a three-part series of **Fish On! Fun.**

You Are Here

Fish On! Card Game	Fish On! Math Activity	Fish On! Simulator

Here's What You'll Need

- Fish Cards
- Fish Ponds

Before Play

Print Fish Cards and Fish Ponds.

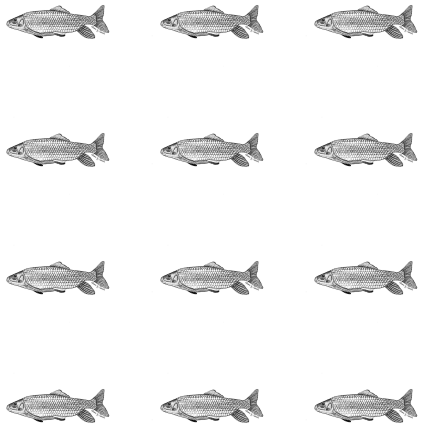
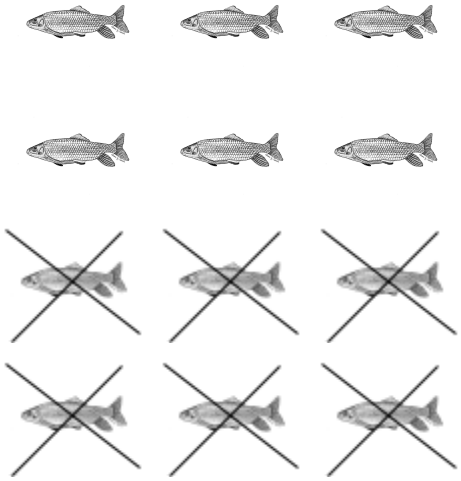
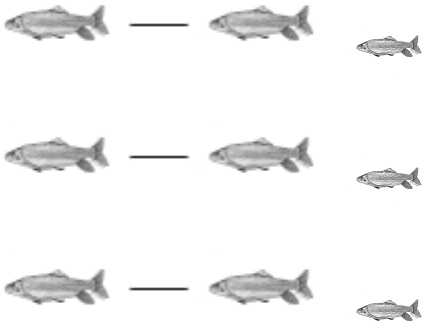
On Your Marks, Get Set, Go!

1. Divide students into six groups. Give each group 32 fish cards and one pond.
2. Tell students to put 12 fish in the pond.
3. Read students the overview (Let's Get Ready section above) and go over the example shown below.
4. Tell students that they will pretend to catch fish in this pond for 5 days and that the goal is to catch as many fish as possible.

5. Inform students that **they must catch the same number of fish each day**. Once they choose, they cannot change their choice until after the entire five days.
6. Have students reach a consensus about how many fish they will catch each day. Allow them to begin and wander the room to help students play the game.
7. After each group has run through five days, discuss. Some groups may have caught a lot of fish and still have more left over; others may be completely out of fish.
8. Let students try again, choosing another number of fish to catch each day.

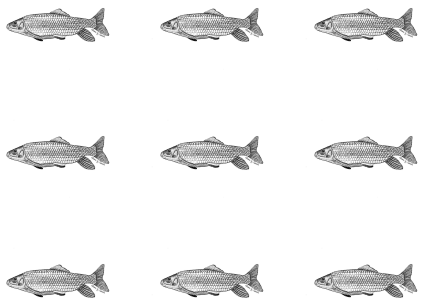
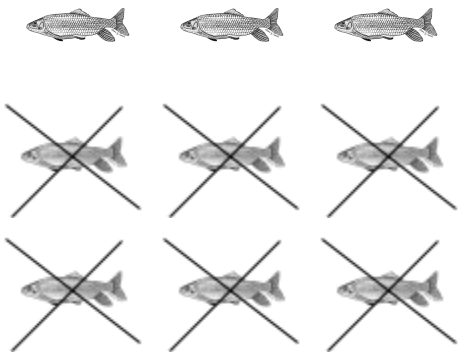
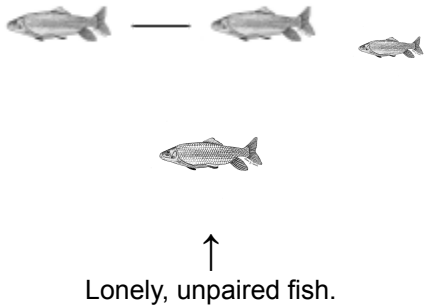
Example:

Discuss with students how it works and show an example.

Start with 12 Fish	Catch 6 Fish	Remaining = Three Pairs Each pair will have a baby fish.
		

The baby fish will grow up overnight. This means that there will be NINE adult fish on Day 2.

DAY 2

Start with 9 Fish	Catch 6 Fish	Remaining = ONE Pair Which will have one baby fish.
		 Lonely, unpaired fish.

The baby fish will grow up overnight. This means there will be FOUR fish on Day 3.

DAY 3

Start with 4 Fish	Catch 6 Fi—oops! You can only catch four fish, because that's all you have left.	There are no fish remaining to have baby fish. The population of fish is completely gone.
