



24

Well done!  
You've eaten lots &  
grown into an adult.  
It's time to swim towards  
'the Love Zone!'

move FORWARD  
2 spaces 23



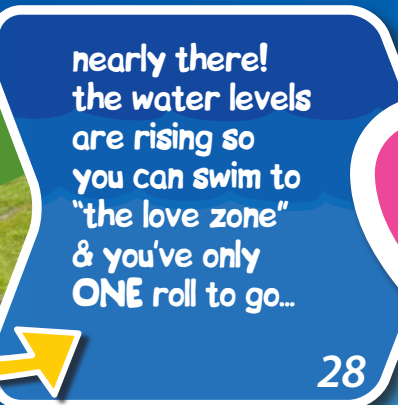
25



you've found lots of  
cosy spaces to hide  
move FORWARD  
2 spaces 26



the bank habitat wasn't  
suitable for spawning  
go BACK  
2 spaces



28

nearly there!  
the water levels  
are rising so  
you can swim to  
'the love zone'  
& you've only  
ONE roll to go...



congratulations!  
you're back to...  
the Love  
Zone!

& can lay your own  
eggs on the riverbank!



What the game's  
about...

This game is based around  
the life cycle of whitebait.  
You start as an egg, hatch,  
go out to sea as a larvae,  
swim back to the river as  
whitebait, grow into an  
adult, then swim back to 'the  
Love Zone' - to lay your own  
eggs & start the cycle again!

How to play...

- you'll need dice
- make/find a game counter
- place your counters on the 'start here' button
- roll the dice & move your counter forward that number of spaces
- follow any instructions in the square you land on
- take turns & keep going until the first person gets back to 'the Love Zone' & wins!

The National Whitebait  
Spawning Education  
Programme is supported by...



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# WHITEBAIT QUEST



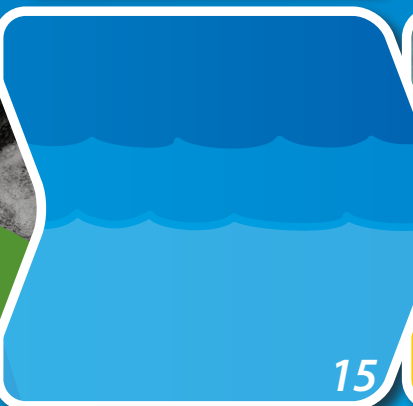
12



22



there was a barrier  
stopping you  
swimming upstream  
move BACK  
3 spaces 14



15



a fish passage barrier  
has been removed  
move FORWARD  
1 space 16



18



you've made  
it back to  
the river 11



you avoided being  
eaten by a fish  
at sea 10



9



you dodged being  
eaten by jellyfish  
while a larvae  
at sea 8



7



well done,  
you made it out to sea  
move FORWARD  
2 spaces 6



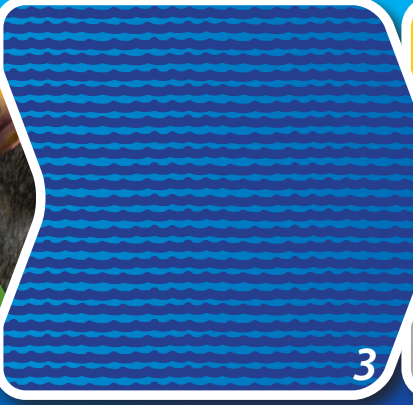
you're a happy little  
whitebait egg on the  
riverbank :-)

1



oh no!  
pests ate your egg :-(  
go BACK  
to START 2

2



3



good work - you hatched!  
move FORWARD  
3 spaces 4

4



5



Find all you need to know about legally fishing for whitebait in NZ at: [www.doc.govt.nz/whitebaiting](http://www.doc.govt.nz/whitebaiting)



Department of Conservation  
Te Papa Ataturangi



- You must always stay within 10 m of your net, and if you stop fishing or want to go away from your net for any reason you must take it out of the water.
- A minimum distance of 20 m between fixed fishing gear must be maintained at all times (except when used from stands). There is no minimum distance between scoop or drag nets.
- When whitebait fishing using a net or screens, do not block off more than 1/4 the width of the waterway.
- You cannot fish within 20 m of structures including a tide/flood gate, confluence, culvert, weir, groynes, outfall structure, unlawful diversion. You cannot fish from any bridge or boat.
- Only juveniles (whitebait life cycle stage) are allowed to be fished.

**A few important things you need to remember about how to legally fish for whitebait in NZ:**

**WHITEBAITING SEASON DATES & TIMES:**  
All NZ (except Chatham Islands) = 1 Sept–30 Oct (inclusive)  
Chatham Islands = 1 Dec–last day of Feb (inclusive)  
...between 5am–8pm (or 6am–9pm NZ Daylight Saving time)  
Taking whitebait at all other times is prohibited.

Activities & new whitebaiting rules inside

## National Whitebait Spawning Education Programme

from



Stream about freshwater life

Inside you'll find some interesting facts & fun activities about NZ whitebait and their lives. If you enjoy these, there's more in our online activity book you can access via the link on the back page.

There's also important reminders about how to legally fish for whitebait in NZ.



Whitebait Life Cycle Stages

eggs, larvae, adult, Whitebait




## Have a go at our Whitebait Wordfind Challenge!

Tick off the words on the left as you find them in the grid. Words are running from top to bottom or left to right → in the grid

- adult
- banded
- eggs
- giant
- habitat
- inanga
- juvenile
- koaro
- kokopu
- larvae
- lifecycle
- love zone
- native
- protect
- shortjaw
- spawning
- whitebait

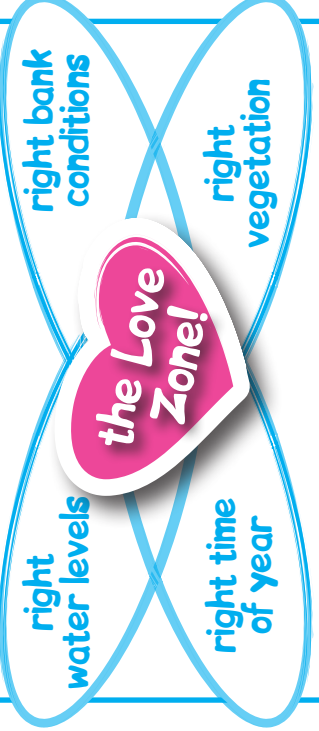
w	h	i	t	e	b	a	i	t	k	l	s	i	g	s
z	q	n	a	h	n	i	p	s	c	o	u	e	l	p
e	l	a	r	v	a	e	r	a	y	b	k	i	o	a
d	u	n	f	p	t	x	o	e	u	e	o	d	y	w
a	j	g	m	e	i	a	t	w	g	i	a	n	t	n
t	i	a	h	b	v	a	e	u	i	p	r	e	m	i
o	e	s	r	i	e	v	c	k	o	k	o	p	u	n
l	b	a	n	d	e	d	t	o	u	d	s	e	z	g
o	r	h	i	h	u	l	i	f	e	c	y	c	l	e
v	e	m	l	a	t	e	a	g	r	y	i	e	n	t
e	i	n	r	b	h	i	d	n	t	k	e	h	a	w
z	r	e	y	i	r	j	u	v	e	n	i	l	e	k
o	t	g	a	t	i	e	l	n	g	a	i	q	k	i
n	r	g	e	a	y	n	t	r	e	h	a	e	t	g
e	e	s	r	t	k	i	s	h	o	r	t	j	a	w

Challenge your friends & family by timing yourselves to see who can find all the whitebait words the fastest!



Answers are on the back page. No cheating!


Whitebait are unique fish – they lay their eggs on the riverbank at the very highest water level of the river. Each whitebait species has their own spawning habitat (we call it 'the Love Zone'), which requires a delicate balance of a number of factors. These are just some of the factors that need to align for successful whitebait spawning...



the Love Zone!

right water levels, right bank conditions, right time of year, right vegetation

Download a copy of our full 'Love NZ Whitebait Activity Book' by scanning the QR code, or go to...




[www.whitebaitconnection.co.nz/what-we-do/education](http://www.whitebaitconnection.co.nz/what-we-do/education)


Answers to the Whitebait Wordfind Challenge:

w	h	i	t	e	b	a	i	t	k	l	s	i	g	s
z	q	n	a	h	n	i	p	s	c	o	u	e	l	p
e	l	a	r	v	a	e	r	a	y	b	k	i	o	a
d	u	n	f	p	t	x	o	e	u	e	o	d	y	w
a	j	g	m	e	i	a	t	w	g	i	a	n	t	n
t	i	a	h	b	v	a	e	u	i	p	r	e	m	i
o	e	s	r	i	e	v	c	k	o	k	o	p	u	n
l	b	a	n	d	e	d	t	o	u	d	s	e	z	g
o	r	h	i	h	u	l	i	f	e	c	y	c	l	e
v	e	m	l	a	t	e	a	g	r	y	i	e	n	t
e	i	n	r	b	h	i	d	n	t	k	e	h	a	w
z	r	e	y	i	r	j	u	v	e	n	i	l	e	k
o	t	g	a	t	i	e	l	n	g	a	i	q	k	i
n	r	g	e	a	y	n	t	r	e	h	a	e	t	g
e	e	s	r	t	k	i	s	h	o	r	t	j	a	w


### The 5 whitebait species in New Zealand




**inanga**  
Lives for 1 yr / Can grow to 190 mm  
at risk – declining




**shortjaw kōkopu**  
Lives for 15+ yrs / Can grow to 370 mm  
nationally threatened – vulnerable



**koaro**  
Lives for 15+ yrs / Can grow to 290 mm  
at risk – declining



**banded kōkopu**  
Lives for 15+ yrs / Can grow to 260 mm  
not threatened



**giant kōkopu**  
Lives for 20+ yrs / Can grow to 580 mm  
at risk – declining