

# CGC1P Unit 4: Canadian Industries

## Activity 1: Primary Industry: Fishing

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### Overview

Canada is surrounded by three oceans- the Atlantic, the Pacific and the Arctic. Fishing in these oceans creates many jobs and produces a wide variety of food products. In this activity the student will examine the important primary industry of fishing.

### Lesson

There are FOUR main types of industry in Canada. They are: Primary, Secondary, Tertiary, and Quaternary. In this activity we will be discussing a primary industry that is very important to Canada- fishing.

Commercial fishing is fishing for profit. Recreational or private fishing is not included in this category. There are three main commercial fishing regions in Canada. They are:

1. Pacific Fishery
2. Atlantic Fisher
3. Great Lakes / Lake Winnipeg Fishery.

The Pacific Coast Fishery off the coast of British Columbia is dependent on salmon species. There are two types of salmon you can purchase at the grocery store. One is wild salmon (caught in the oceans), and the other is farmed salmon (raised in captivity). The process of farming fish is called Aquaculture. Fish are either grown in fishponds or in netted-off areas in the ocean. Much of the salmon we buy in Ontario is farmed fish.

In the past, there has been some controversy in the news about farmed salmon.

The Atlantic Coast Fishery has been dependent on the cod species. However, in recent years the numbers of cod have been steadily declining due to over-fishing and damaging fishing practices.

The huge continental shelf off the coast of Newfoundland is called the *Grand Banks*. It is one of the best fishing grounds in the world, and actually the extension of the Continental shelf of Canada that creates shallow water.

There are a number of factors that make the Grand Banks one of the best fishing grounds in the world:

- The continental shelf makes the water quite shallow in this area. This means more sunlight gets through to enable plant growth.
- The mixing of the cold Labrador Ocean current with the warm Gulf Stream current make conditions ideal for fish.

## Assignment

1. What is the difference between commercial and recreational fishing?
2. What are the 3 main commercial fishing regions in Canada?
3. What are the two types of salmon you can purchase at the grocery store?
4. What factors make the *Grand Banks* the best fishing grounds in the world?