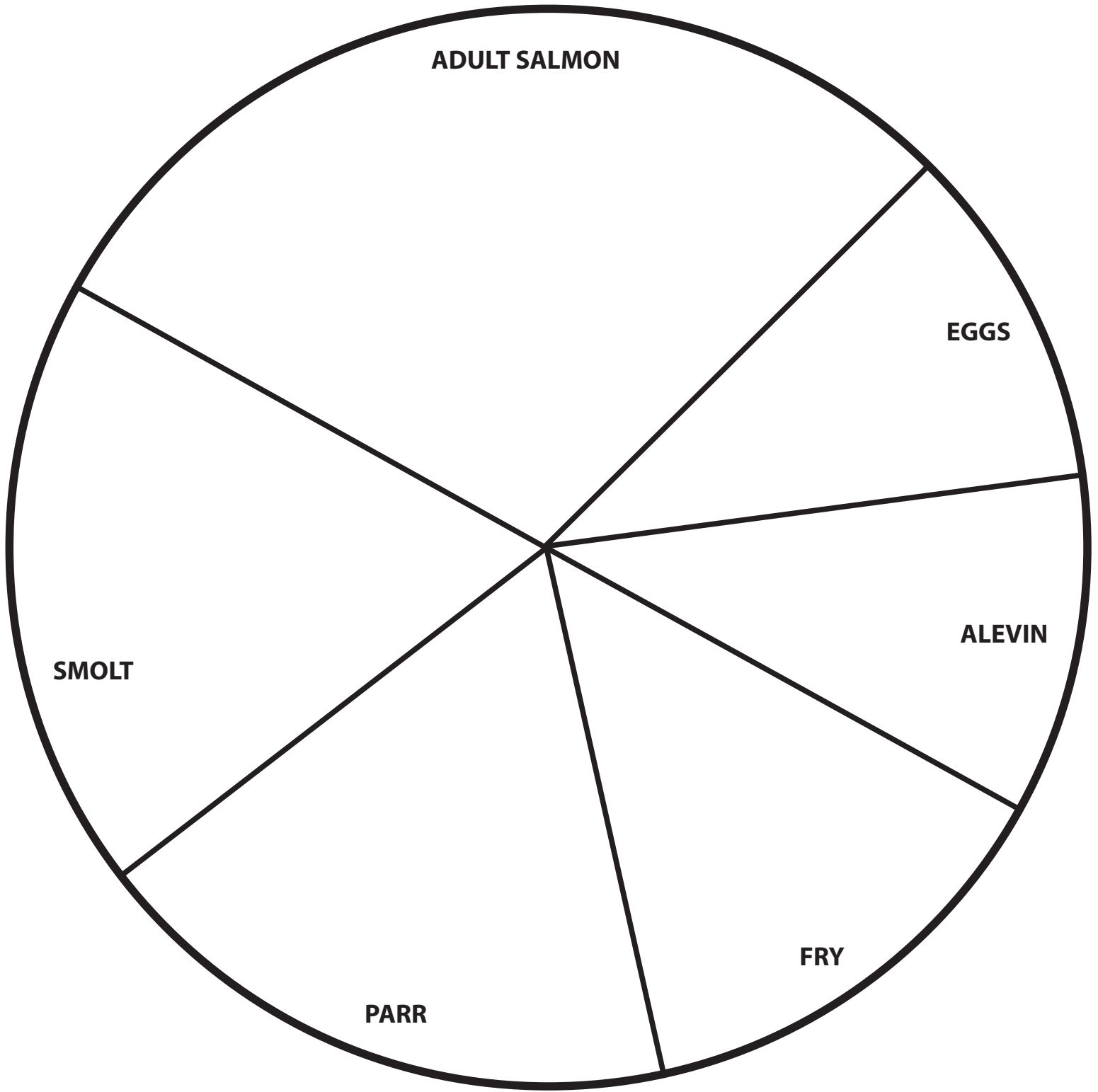
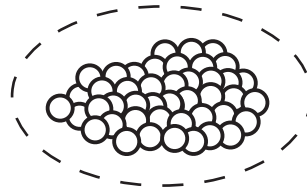


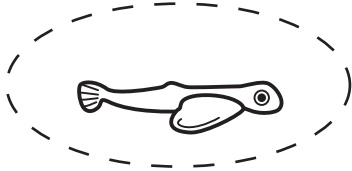
# Salmon Life Cycle



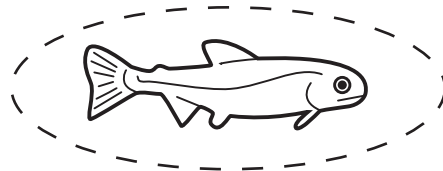
# Salmon Life Cycle



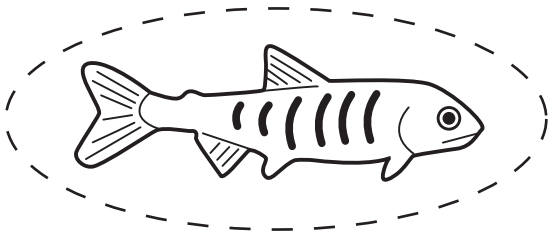
Salmon eggs are usually red to pink in color and round. They are laid in gravel nests at the bottom of stream and riverbeds.



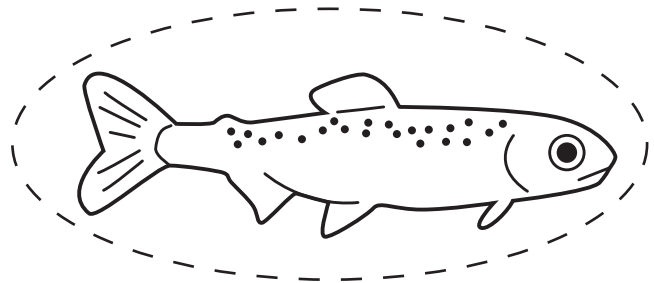
When ready to hatch, the baby salmon break free of the egg's soft shell. At this stage, they are called Alevin and are about one inch in length.



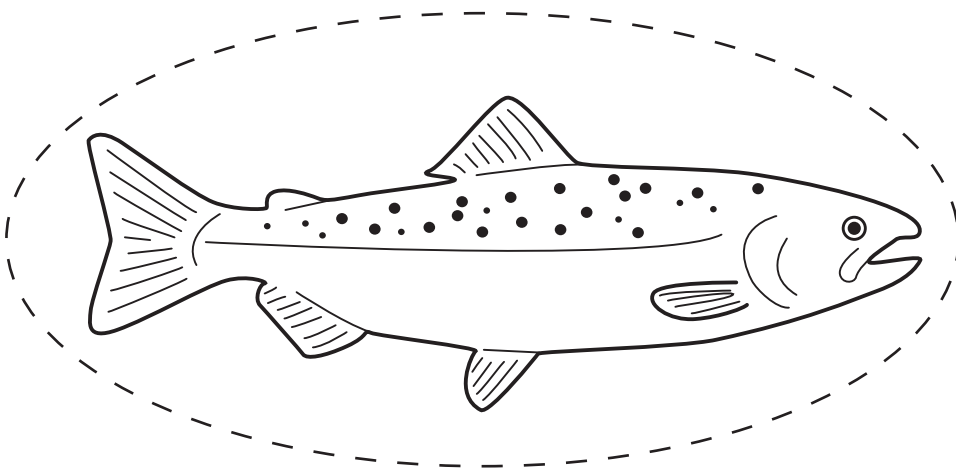
The tiny salmon leave their gravel nest and begin to swim and feed for themselves. At this stage they are called Fry and start their journey downstream.



When they grow to about six inches in length and get stripes, they are called parr. Though a bit bigger they still must hide from predators and continue their journey towards the ocean.



The salmon are called smolts when they lose their stripes and turn silvery in color. They start schooling together in large groups.



Adult salmon spend 1 to 4 years in the ocean swimming, feeding, and avoiding predators like seals, orcas, and fishermen.

Spawning adults readapt to the fresh water and begin their upstream journey to their stream or river where they were born to lay or fertilize eggs.