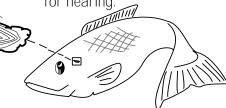
How and Why we age fish...

How: We count the number of lines in the otolith: one year= one line.

This tells us this fish is 5 years old. '

Why: Knowing the age of the fish helps us determine how long the fish live and how quickly they grow.

An otolith is a bone located just behind the ear. It is used for hearing.



Other ways in nature to determine age:



You can learn how old a deer is by the number of points he has on his antler.

This deer is 5 years old

Otolith

Candles on a birthday cake are a good way to learn how old a person is

How old are you?





a sea lion's tooth to find his age, just like the rings on a tree and on an otolith.

How old is this seal?

Can you think of other ways to determine age?

- fish scales have lines
- bones have lines
- toenails on seals, have lines
- -ear wax on baleen whales
- -size or weight of animal.



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