## How and Why we age fish...

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

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

This tells us this fish is $\mathbf{5}$ years old. Why: Knowing the age of the fis $h$ helps us det ermine how long the fish live and how quickly they grow.


## Other ways in nature to determine age:

 his age, just like the rings on a tree and on an otolith.

How old is this seal?

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

This deer is 5 years old.


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

How old are you?


## 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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