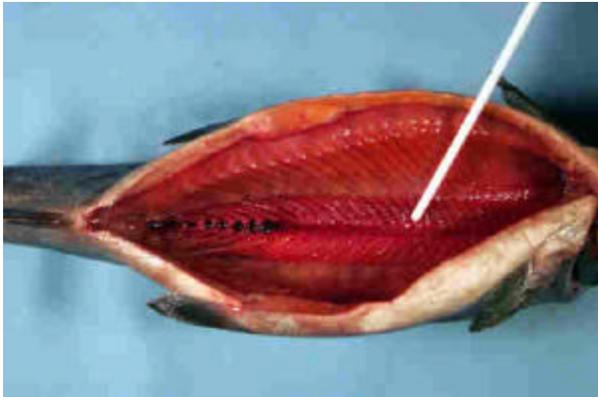


SALMONIDS IN THE CLASSROOM: SALMON DISSECTION

STEP 9



SKELETAL SYSTEM

- Fish have a flexible backbone, as do mammals. The backbone is a series of interlocked disks. Salmon can move from side to side, but can only bend up and down a small amount.
- The backbone protects the spinal cord that runs through the body to the brain.
- The ribs are lightweight, curved bones that give the fish its shape. The ribs protect the salmon's internal organs



1. Remove a rib by cutting on each side and pulling it up toward the backbone.



2. Cut to disconnect it.

You may also cut off the tail to show the spine. Membranes carry messages via nerves from the lateral line to the spine.