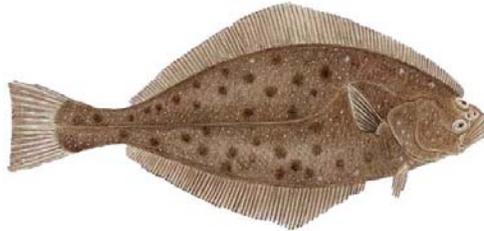


## Student Resource Halibut Adaptations

### Directions:

Read the facts about the adult halibut's physical adaptations and its preferred habitat. Explain the suitability of the halibut to its habitat using the facts given below.



- The Pacific halibut has a flat, diamond-shaped body. An adult halibut has been measured at 8 feet long and 500 pounds!
- The oldest recorded female halibut was 42 years old and the oldest male was 27 years old.
- Mature halibut have both eyes on the same side of their head — the upper side.
- The mature halibut is dark brown on its upper side and irregularly blotched. It is a lighter white on its lower side.
- Many adults usually hunt for prey by lying in wait at the bottom of the ocean for the prey to swim by.



This is a typical habitat for a mature Pacific halibut. Can you see the fish that is lying in wait for unwary prey?

- Pacific halibut are found on or near the bottom over mud, sand, or gravel banks, cruising for a meal.
- Glacier Bay has deep, glacier-carved marine basins with shallow areas filled with rock and rubble. Meltwater from today's glaciers brings fine silt into the ocean. This results in a muddy flat ocean floor, especially in the deep basins