



Life in the Ocean

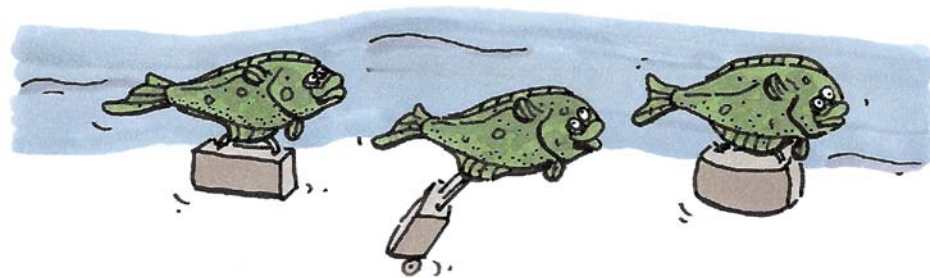
What do halibut do with their time?

As larvae and postlarvae, they are carried by strong surface currents sometimes hundreds and even thousands of miles before they settle to the bottom. There they eat and grow for two to three years in the shallow waters near to shore.



Settling down

Once halibut grow into adults, most seem to lose their sense of adventure and stay in one general area. They still travel longer distances during the winter spawning season and perhaps to look for food.



Young and adventurous

At about three years of age, halibut begin what biologists call a counter-migration. This means that they begin traveling in the opposite direction to the currents that carried them as larvae. It's not clear whether young halibut return to the place where their parent's lived, or are following some mysterious cues that scientists have yet to discover.



Flat Fact:

Halibut have sharp teeth they can use for grabbing, but they don't use them for chewing dinner. Instead, halibut suck in their prey and swallow it whole!

G migration, prey

