

**FISH OF NEBRASKA DICHOTOMOUS KEY WORKSHEET**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. a. The fish has an adipose fin.....Go to 2  
 b. The fish does not have an adipose fin.....Go to 3
  
2. a. The fish has barbels.....Go to 4  
 b. The fish does not have barbels..... \_\_\_\_\_
  
3. a. The fish has one dorsal fin (can have two parts that are connected together).....Go to 5  
 b. The fish has two separate dorsal fins (adipose fin is not a dorsal fin).....Go to 6
  
4. a. The fish has a forked tail fin..... \_\_\_\_\_  
 b. The fish has a rounded tail fin..... \_\_\_\_\_
  
5. a. The dorsal fin has sharp spines.....Go to 7  
 b. The dorsal fin does not have sharp spines.....Go to 8
  
6. a. The fish has vertical stripes on its sides..... \_\_\_\_\_  
 b. The fish has a long horizontal stripe on its side..... \_\_\_\_\_
  
7. a. The fish has dark spots all over its body and fins..... \_\_\_\_\_  
 b. The fish has stripes on its sides .....Go to 9
  
8. a. The dorsal fin is near the back of the fish's body, above the anal fin..... \_\_\_\_\_  
 b. The dorsal fin is near the center of the fish's body, in front of the anal fin..... \_\_\_\_\_
  
9. a. The fish has a large mouth that reaches back to its eye..... \_\_\_\_\_  
 b. The fish has a small mouth that is in front of its eye..... \_\_\_\_\_