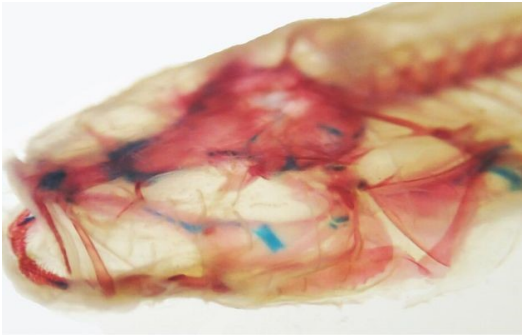


Name: _____ Date: _____

New Discoveries: The Butt-head Cave Fish*



Scientists have discovered a blind cave-fish whose anus is located behind its head, and they have named it after the Indiana University Hoosiers. According to *Discover Magazine*, the fish lives in the dark corners of the eastern United States.

Apparently, Louisiana State University biologist Matthew Niemiller and his colleagues, Prosanta Chakrabarty and Jacques Prejean, gathered 41 fish from Kentucky and Indiana and minutely examined their bodies. The ones on the northern side of the river have been named *Amblyopsis hoosieri*, while the ones on the South remain *Amblyopsis spelaea*.

Physically *hoosieri* look a bit fatter and more wrinkled than their nearest cousins *spelaea*, but the real differences became clearer when Louisiana State University biologist Matthew Niemiller looked at their genetics.

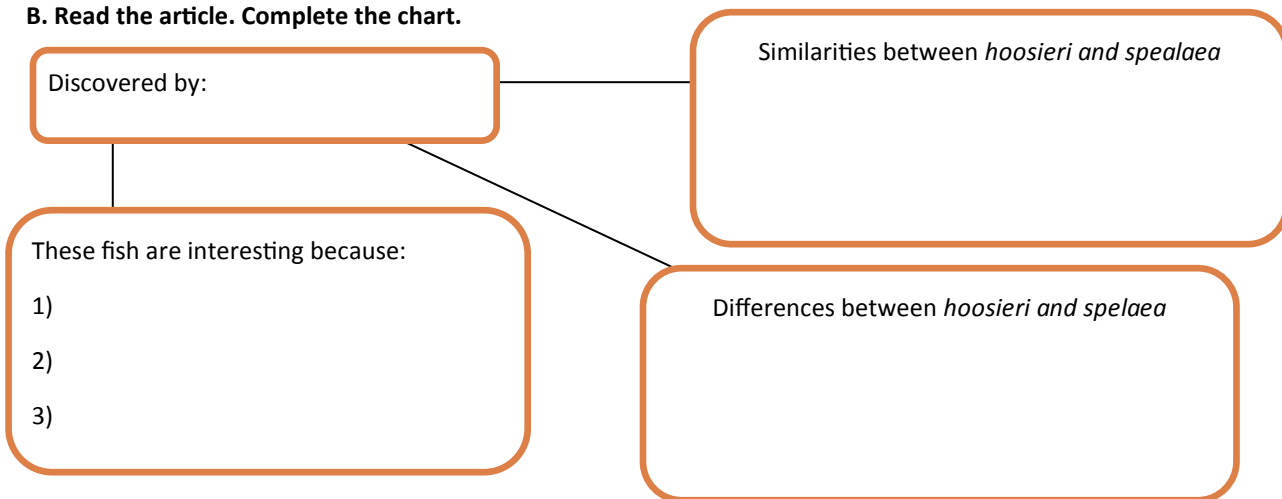
Spelaea have a defective rhodopsin gene, while the *hoosieri* version of the gene works fine. Rhodopsin is a pigment that is pretty important to vision - so the fact that both species are actually blind means it doesn't make much practical difference to the fish, it just helps mark them as genetically distinct species.

*Article Source: <http://www.timeslive.co.za/scitech/2014/06/04/scientists-discover-butt-head-fish-name-it-after-sports-team>

*Photo Source: Prosanta Chakrabarty/ LSU Fish/ Twitter

A. Where do the new species of fish live? _____

B. Read the article. Complete the chart.



C. The scientists chose to name the Indiana fish after the basketball team? If you were the scientist what would you name the fish? Why? Discuss your ideas with a partner.