

How Lamprey Lost His Bones

Once upon a time there lived many different kinds of creatures, all of them animals. One day, two of them, Lamprey and Suckerfish, challenged each other to the ancient gambling game of Stick-Game.

“I’m an expert in Stick-Game,” said Lamprey.

“You needn’t look far to meet your match. I’m right here,” said Suckerfish.

They played almost the whole night and Suckerfish began to win the bets. In the end, Suckerfish defeated Lamprey. He won from him everything, even his scales.

After Lamprey had lost everything, he told Suckerfish, “I’m going to bunch up as many bones as I have and bet them on another game.” And so Lamprey bid his bones and began gambling again.

They continued playing and by the time the sun rose, Lamprey had finally lost all of his bones. This is why Lamprey has no bones or scales. He lost everything to Suckerfish in the Stick-Game.

This story teaches people to observe the differences between lamprey and other fish. What other lessons do you think this story might teach?

