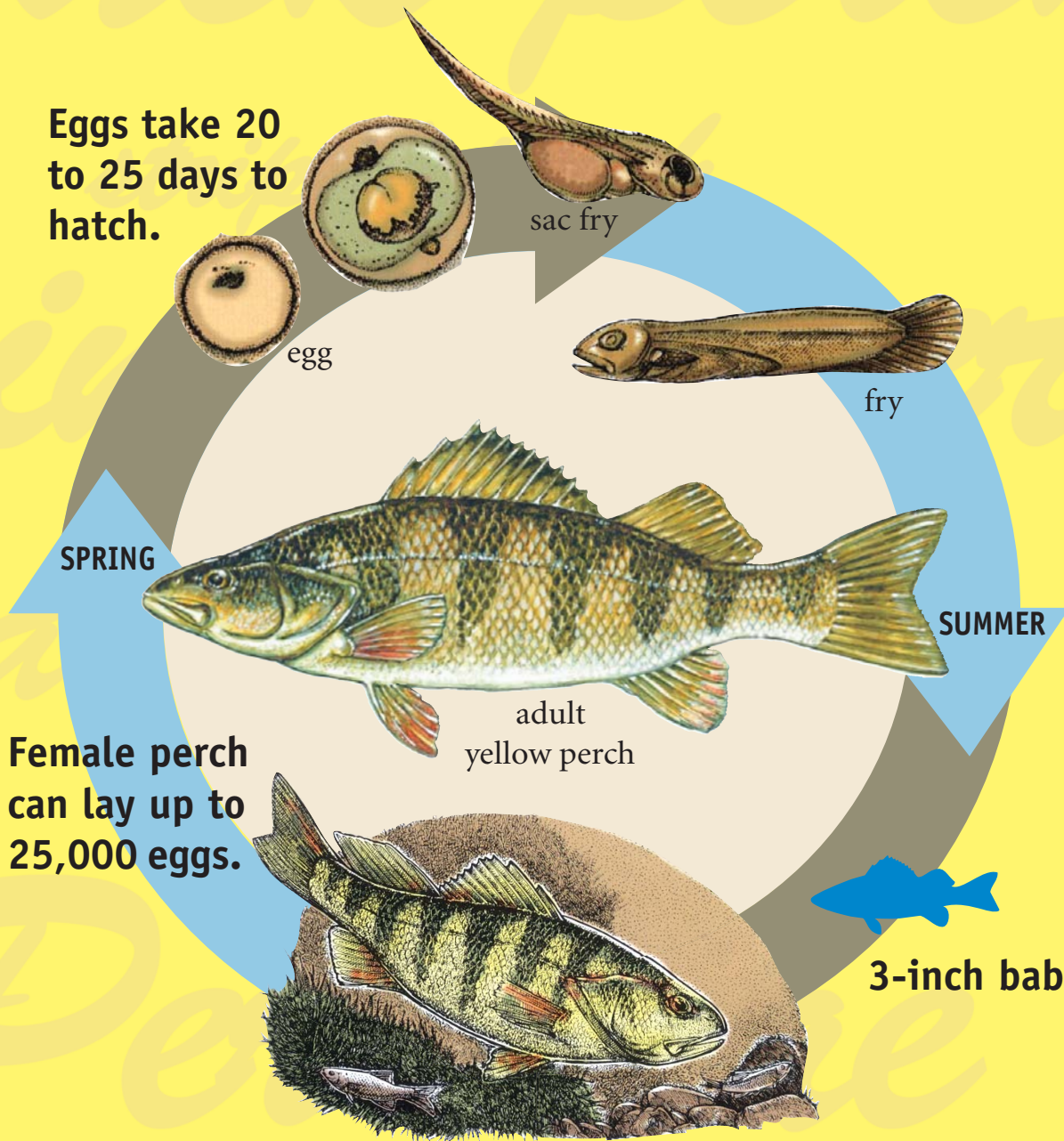


Life Cycle

Perch spawn in the spring when water temperatures are between 45 and 50 degrees. Usually this happens in March or April. The fish prefer water that is 5 to 10 feet deep with a gravel bottom or vegetation. The female lays the eggs in a long jelly-like string. This jelly coating helps protect the eggs from

infections and predators. One female perch can lay up to 25,000 eggs! The eggs take 20 to 25 days to hatch. The baby perch are not very good swimmers and will hide in the weeds. Perch parents do not guard the young fish. The baby perch will be about 3 inches long by the end of their first summer.

Eggs take 20 to 25 days to hatch.



Female perch can lay up to 25,000 eggs.

SPRING

SUMMER

adult yellow perch

3-inch baby perch