

Dedicated to the Memory of  Commissioner Enoch S. "Inky" Moore Jr.

PLAY

Summer
2007

Pennsylvania • League • of • Angling • Youth

Let's Look at Largemouth

by Kim Mumper

When is a bass not a bass?
When it is a largemouth
bass—PA's biggest sunfish
family member!

Largemouth bass are related
to bluegills, pumpkinseeds and
smallmouth bass. You can tell
them apart by their greenish
backs and white undersides,
and the black stripe on each
side. And don't forget that
HUGE mouth that runs all
the way back beyond its
eyes, giving them their
nickname—bucketmouth!

Like their cousins, the largemouth bass
has a two-part **dorsal fin**, or back fin. The
front part is spiny. The back part is
soft. The spines in this fin aren't as
thick or spiky. These two parts of
the dorsal fin are almost totally
separate. In other sunfishes, the two
parts are joined.

Try fishing for largemouth bass in
large ponds or weedy lakes.

Early morning and evening
are the best times
during the hot summer
months. And with a bit
of luck, you'll reel in a
fighting bucketmouth!

