

If you only have 15 minutes ...

Most people in developed countries get their fish at the fish market. The fish come from large fish farms or giant fishing trawlers that cover the globe. But did you know that much of the fish consumed worldwide comes from small fisher operations known as *artisanal fishing*. Ninety-six percent of fishers are artisanal or small-scale operations. They are responsible for around 35 percent of the fish caught worldwide. This form of fishing involves small-scale, low-technology operations using inexpensive equipment by local families in or near coastal waters or islands. The fish are usually caught with traditional tools like spears and casting nets and are consumed locally. The pirogue boats of Senegal are a perfect example. For hundreds of years, Senegalese fishers have harvested marlin, sailfish and albacore tuna off the West African shore.

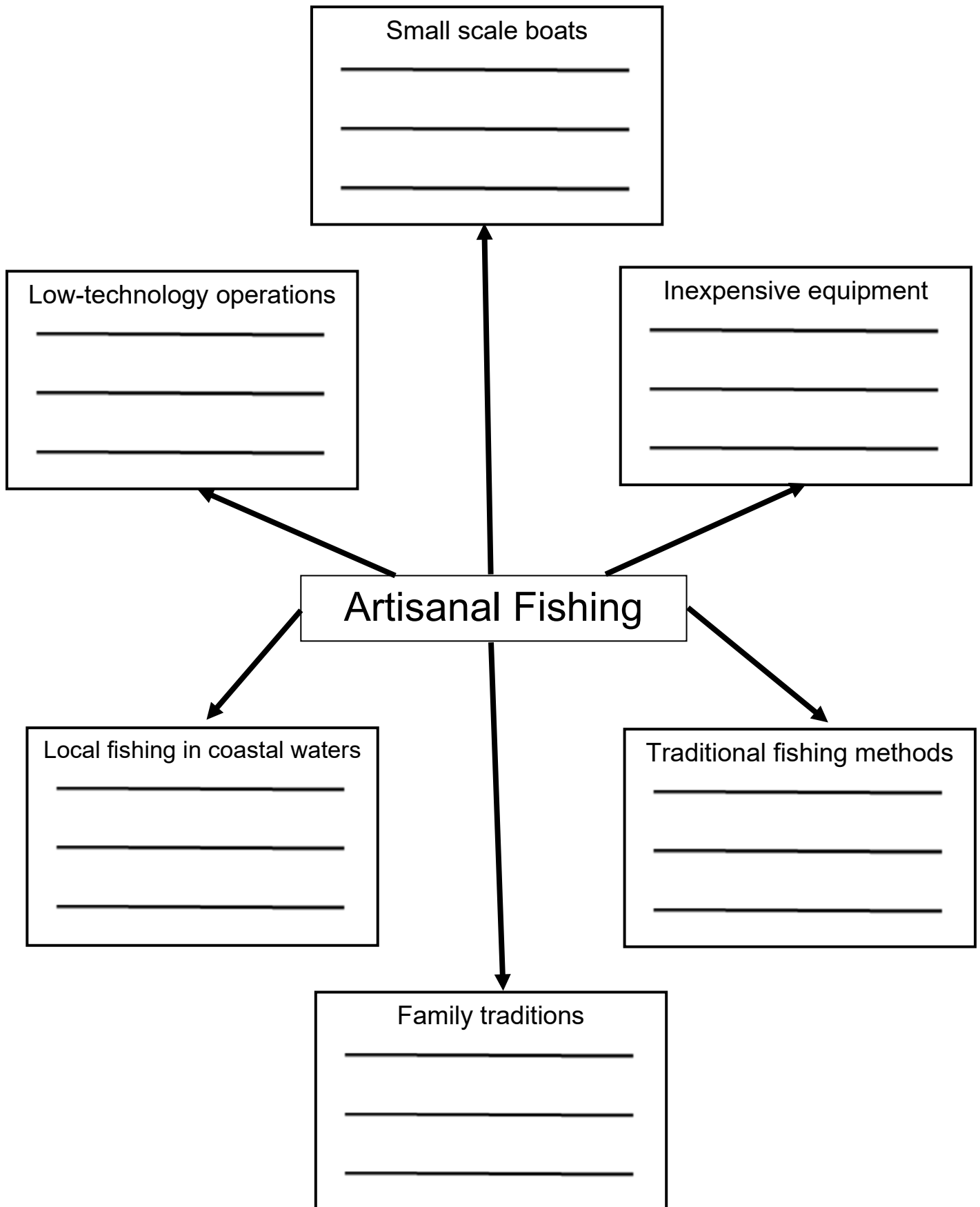
In this activity, find examples of fishing in Senegal that illustrate key characteristics of artisanal fishing. Review the key words or phrases on the web chart on the next page. Then review the article and the photo captions to find words or phrases that describe artisanal fishing. Write them in the space below the word or phrase on the web chart. Use an additional piece of paper if necessary.¹

After you've filled out the web chart, formulate a descriptive paragraph using the words or phrases you've written on the chart to explain what artisanal fishing is in Senegal.

Common Core Standard(s) Met:

CCRA.R.1 Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.

CCRA.R.2 Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.



¹ Possible answers: 1. Small-scale boats, 6-meter, 6 person capacity considered mid-size, small-scale fishing provides 75 percent of edible protein; 2. Low-tech operations 1-2 motors on a pirogue suited for more than a week at sea, no smartphones for fun, fishermen refuse to use fiberglass boats; 3. Inexpensive equipment, a mid-size pirogue costs US\$1,500.00; 4. Local fishing in coastal waters, 80 percent of the catch comes from small-scale fishers; 5. Traditional methods, local fisherman being challenged by large-scale fisherman and nighttime fisherman who use bright waterproof flashlights; 6. Family traditions, pirogues connect people to their ancestors, teaching fishing teaches life lessons.