Herring

Alewive (a river herring)
- Dorsal fin forward of midlength
- Eye diameter greater than snout length
- No teeth on roof of mouth
- May have a line of spots
- American Shad
- Largest in the herring family
- Upper jaw close to rear edge of eye
- Deep body

Atlantic Herring
- Dorsal fin at midlength
- Teeth on roof of mouth
- No teeth on roof of mouth
- American Shad
- Largest in the herring family
- Upper jaw close to rear edge of eye
- Deep body

Blueback Herring (a river herring)
- Dorsal fin forward of midlength
- Eye diameter less than snout length
- No teeth on roof of mouth
- Blueback Herring (a river herring)
- American Shad
- Largest in the herring family
- Upper jaw close to rear edge of eye
- Deep body

Alewife, American Shad, Blueback Herring and Hickory Shad illustrations ©Duane Raver; Atlantic Herring illustration ©Victor Young/NH Fish and Game Department; Gizzard Shad illustration courtesy of Texas Parks and Wildlife Department ©2012.