

Fishing Fun! Interest Project



Girls must complete: 2- Skill Builders; 1- Technology; 1- Service Project; 1- Career Exploration and 2 – activities from any category.

SKILL BUILDERS

1. Learn and practice good outdoor manners while fishing. Fishing, as in other sports, has certain ethics to follow. Are you a good sportswoman? What characteristics make up a good sportswoman? Discuss and role-play the following attributes of being a good sport when fishing: good outdoor manners, ethical and unethical behavior, more understanding of the point of view of others.
2. Explain to your counselor the injuries that could occur while fishing and the proper treatment. Include: cuts, scratches, puncture wounds, insect bites, hypothermia and heat reactions. Explain how to remove a hook that has lodged in your arm. Name and explain five different safety practices you should always follow while fishing.
3. Know how to clean, store, and cook your fish. The methods used will depend on the species of fish and cooking techniques preferred by the angler.
4. Make a record of the species of fish in Arkansas. Learn how to recognize at least 4 of these freshwater fish by studying the anatomy and the habits of each fish. Read about the “food chain” process and discuss with a group how this process affects these 4 species.
5. Learn and explain the difference between two different fishing outfits. Point out and identify the parts of several types of rods and reels. Explain how each would be used.

TECHNOLOGY

1. Know the fishing rules and regulations for your state. Know your limits, seasons, permits, and other regulations to be lawful citizens while fishing in Arkansas and know why there are laws to protect natural resources. Discuss the importance of reporting wildlife violations and learn proper procedure of reporting accident.
2. Learn the different types of rods, lines, reels, and tackle boxes to use in various freshwater fishing. Discuss how to match a fly rod, line and leader to get a balanced system. Discuss several types of fly lines; explain how and when each would be used. Discover the other tackle equipment that could be used such as nets, stringers, and hand tools.

3. There are many kinds of know which you can learn to tie and use when fishing. The fisherman's knot, (improved cinch) is the most widely used and basic knot. Demonstrate how to tie the following knots: the fisherman's knot, palomar, turle, blood loop (barrel knot) and surgeon's loop. Explain how each knot is used and when to use it.
4. On a map, locate ponds, streams, fish farms, and recreational areas that are accessible in your area for fishing. Find out about the different skills needed in locating your fish: basic needs of the fish, reading water, setting the hook, playing a fish, landing a fish, releasing a fish, and stringing the fish. Go fishing in at least two of the habitats listed above.
5. Research the different categories of artificial lures and bait. Make two different types of artificial lures and use them. Make a booklet or chart of the different kinds of artificial lures and bait and show the methods of hooking your bait. Include in the information when and for what fish that specific bait is used.

SERVICE PROJECTS

1. Put together a booklet or chart which includes the following: state rules and regulations ethics, 4 species of fish in your area and their habitats, natural and artificial bait selection.
2. Help a group of younger children get started in the art of fishing. Show them basic techniques and take them to safe fishing area, following regulations in Safety-Wise.
3. Prepare a display showing the importance of leave no trace fishing. How does it positively affect fishing resources?
4. Organize and participate in a shoreline cleanup outing.

CAREER EXPLORATION

1. Find out where the fish hatcheries are in your area. Visit and find out about careers in that industry. What education is needed to fulfill the requirements to work at a hatchery?
2. In order to fish you need certain equipment for each type of fishing. Find out about careers attached to fishing equipment. What education do you need and what qualifications are needed?
3. Stocking a fishing area is a business. Find out what regulations are involved, what education you need and what careers are available in the stocking business.
4. Contact a Professional Fisherman (or woman) and find out how they became a "professional". Read or do internet research on fishing tournaments.
5. Contact the Arkansas Fish and Game Commission to have someone come to talk to your troop. Find out what types of education are needed for the jobs in their organization.

When the activities are completed, the Interest Project Patch may be purchased at the council shop.