

A WOLF GOES FISHING

ELECTIVE ADVENTURE



SNAPSHOT OF ADVENTURE



People have been fishing long before they started farming. Today, most people fish as a hobby or just for fun, and not for survival. In this Adventure, you will get ready to learn the basics of fishing where you live and join your family, den, or pack on a fishing trip.

Do wolves fish in the wild? Yes, they do. In Alaska, wolves fish for salmon, and in Minnesota, they fish for freshwater fish in creeks. Let's learn about the different types of water in which to fish and how to catch them.

REQUIREMENTS

1. Identify the type of water you will be fishing in and what type of fish live in the water.
2. Learn about the different types of bait used to attract fish.
3. Demonstrate a proper cast for the pole or rod you are using.
4. Learn the rules of fishing safely.
5. With your den, pack, or family, go fishing.



- Elective Adventure
- Scan for this Adventure page

REQUIREMENT 1

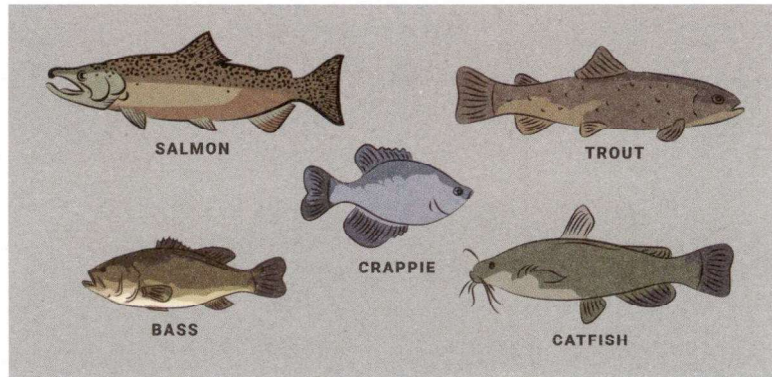
Identify the type of water you will be fishing in and the types of fish that live in the water.

Fish live in all types of water. Your den leader or parent will tell you where you will be fishing for this Adventure. The type of water you fish in will determine the type of fish you will be catching, and the equipment and bait you will use.

Fishing waters may be salt water, like from the ocean, or fresh water, like from a stream. The water could even be a mix of salt and fresh water known as brackish water. Remember that just because it is called fresh water does not mean it is safe to drink.

Next, determine where you will be fishing: a lake, pond, river, stream, or ocean. Based on the type of water and the body of water, here are some common fish you might find.



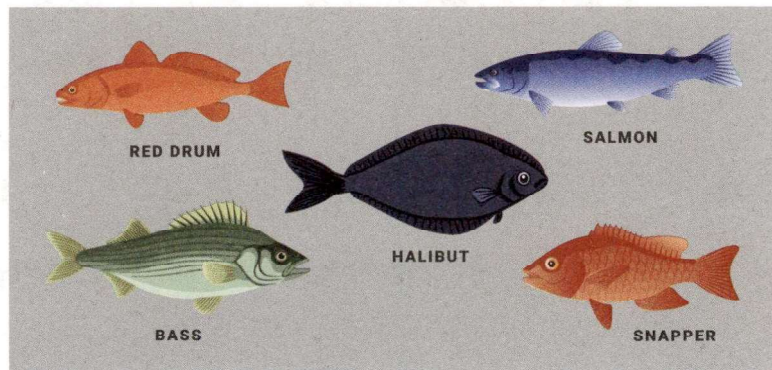


Freshwater lakes and ponds – bass, catfish, and panfish.

Lakes and ponds are good places to start fishing.

Freshwater streams and rivers – bass, trout, and salmon.

Some fish, such as salmon, will migrate from streams and rivers into the ocean and back again.



Saltwater ocean – redfish, snapper, and bluefish.



_____ Date

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REQUIREMENT 2

Learn about the different types of bait used to attract fish.

Different fish eat different things. Bait attracts fish. To catch fish, you have to use the type of bait that fish want to eat.

Live bait – Knowing what the fish for which you are fishing eats will determine the type of live bait you need. Worms, crickets, minnows, and shrimp are common types of live bait.



Artificial bait – The most common artificial bait looks like a worm or a small fish. Some dough bait is used for trout, catfish, and carp. Some people use corn or slices of hot dogs.





Lures – These are designed to look like small fish that a bigger fish eats. Some lures do not look like a fish, but when they are moving in the water, they move and make sounds to attract a fish.



Date

Adult's Signature

REQUIREMENT 3

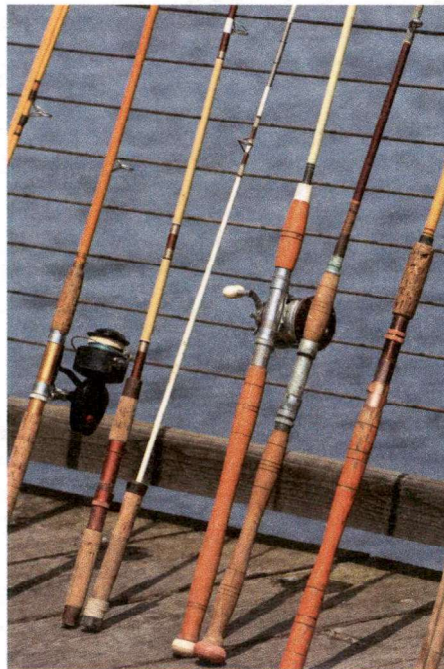
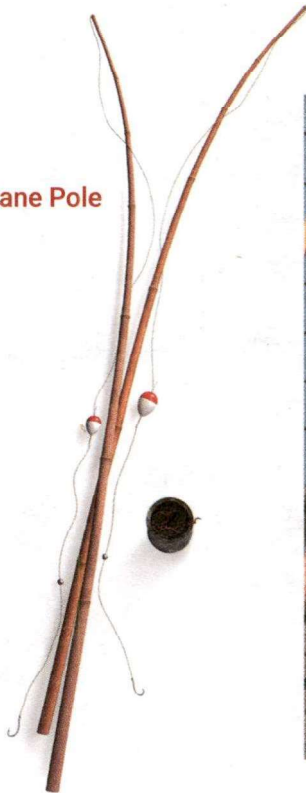
Demonstrate a proper cast for the pole or rod you are using.

Two common types of fishing poles are cane poles and closed-face spincast (push button).

Cane poles are simply long poles with a fishing line tied to one end. There are no moving parts. Cane poles work best when using artificial or live bait.

Spincast outfits have a reel on the handle of the rod. The reel is where the fishing line is wound as you turn the handle.

Cane Pole



Spincast Pole

Here are some tips when learning to cast.

1. Use a pole or rod that fits you. Your pole or rod should be easy for you to handle.
2. Make sure your equipment is in good condition.
3. Practice on land by attaching a small casting plug or bobber instead of a hook to the end of your line.
4. Always look all around you before casting. Look for other people and other things, like tree branches, which may get in your way.

Here are the steps to proper casting.

1. Grasp the rod's handle, extending your forefinger to touch the spool cover. Pick up the line in front of the roller with the index finger of your other hand and open the reel's bail.



2. Face the target area and aim the rod tip toward the target at about eye level.



3. Swiftly and smoothly, bend your casting arm at the elbow and raise your forearm so that your hand is almost at eye level.



4. When the rod is almost straight up and down, move your forearm forward. When the rod reaches eye level, straighten your forefinger to release the line.



Date

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REQUIREMENT 4

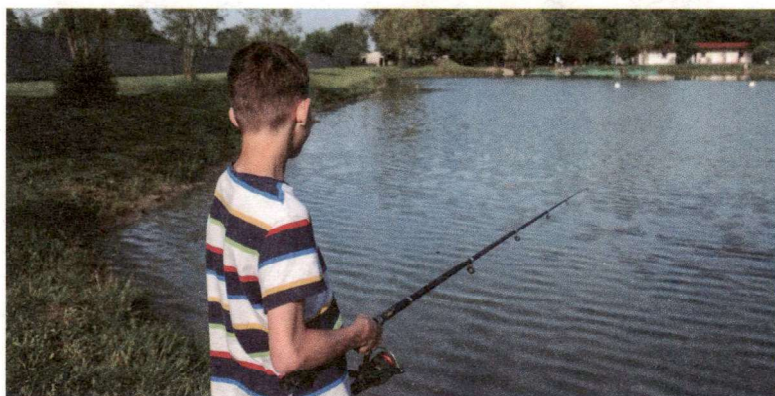
Learn the rules of fishing safely.

Your state probably has a license requirement, meaning that people must apply for a fishing license before they go fishing. Youth who are Cub Scout age often don't need a license, but find out about licensing requirements in your area.

Once you know your local fishing rules and regulations, here are the six things to know to keep you and others safe:

1. Fish with proper adult supervision.
2. Get permission to fish where you plan to fish. Check the weather before you go.
3. Do not fish in a thunderstorm or inclement weather.
4. Use the buddy system. You must be able to see them.
5. Give plenty of room to others who are fishing nearby.
6. Never fish where people are swimming.

Discuss any other rules your family has so you will be safe while fishing.





Fishing tips:

- ▶ When you are through fishing, properly dispose of your worms or bait fish. Do not release them into the water.
- ▶ If releasing your catch, always wet your hands prior to touching a fish to protect the mucous membrane that protects the fish.
- ▶ To release fish easily, bend down all barbs on hooks.
- ▶ Treble hooks are not recommended.



Date

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REQUIREMENT 5

With your den, pack, or family, go fishing.

Now it is time to take what you have learned and go on a fun fishing adventure. Be sure and bring along your Cub Scout Six Essentials.

Fishing takes time. Enjoy being outside with friends and family. Catching your first fish is exciting, and that excitement continues with every fish you catch.



Date

Adult's Signature