

## TAKE THE KIDS FISHING

Grab your fishing rod, your worms, and your tween, and head off for a fun day of fishing.

Take a look at these tips to make this a great outdoors adventure.

If you have never taken your tween fishing before, what are you waiting for? Fishing is a great way to spend quality time as a family or for some one-on-one bonding between father and son.

Actually, girls enjoying fish, too.

So, here are some tips to make your trip fun, and hopefully you will be bringing dinner home tonight.

### Fishing Basics

- Do some research ahead of time, so you can plan a trip to a place that is known to be stocked with fish. You can also try lakes in your area.
- Using live bait offers better chances of making a catch, though it may not be your kids first pick. If you opt not to use live bait, other choices might be salmon eggs, cheese, or other suggestions from a local bait and tackle store.
- Exercise plenty of patience, if you are taking your child fishing for the first time. It is not easy at first, but they will learn when given time.
- If you are an expert at fishing, be careful not to overload your child with every bit of

information you know. He just wants to have fun, experiment, and spend time with you.

- Bring along a First-Aid kit just in case you or your child loses a battle with the hook, or other injury.

### Fishing Equipment

- Be sure to bring along and review the fishing regulations for your area. You want your child to learn why the regulations are important.
- Keep the equipment simple. The less time you are preparing the equipment the better. Kids just want to feel a fish on their line, and that is exciting enough for them. They are not really concerned about fancy equipment.
- Kids fishing equipment should be comfortable and easy to handle. Many stores have a great selection of low-priced fishing rods with styles that kids love.
- Basically, you will need a rod and reel (fishing pole), hooks, and weights.

### What to Do When You Get a Catch

- You have two options:
  - 1.Keep the fish.
  - 2.Throw it back into the water.
- With your child, check the fishing regulations you brought to determine if you can keep a fish (usually based on the fish's size and what kind you

caught).

- If you catch more than one fish, with your child, check the fishing regulations you brought to determine how many fish you are allowed to keep.
- If you are keeping your fish, have a bucket or carrier filled with ice to place the fish in. This will keep them cold until you are able to cut them up for dinner.

## GO FISHING, KIDS

Summer is the perfect time to grab a rod, a reel and some bait and toss a fishing line into the water.

Here's some tips for the ultimate summer fishing trip.

### Stay Cheap

All you need is a cheap rod and reel, some fishing line, some plastic bobbers, hooks and a tackle box.

### Catch Your Own Bait

You can buy minnows or night crawlers at any bait shop but it's way cooler to catch your own.

You may have thought about sticking your younger sister on the end of a fish hook - but you'll get in less trouble, and catch more fish, by digging up worms or grasshoppers yourself.

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### Be Ready

Get your fishing gear and bait together the night before so you're ready to go the next morning. Practice your casts the day before.

Use an open area where there are no trees or power lines and aim for a target about 25 feet in front of you.

### Location

Lakes and rivers, especially the mouth of a river, are fishing hot spots.

Rivers act as the spawning grounds for many fish,

so this can be perfect area to cast your line.

Many fishermen don't like to share info on their favorite fishing holes but if you talk to someone at a local outdoors store, they may give you some tips on the best lakes and rivers in your area to check out.

### Be Patient

You may go hours without even getting a bite and you could go home without catching anything.

Don't worry. You can always make up a story about how you caught a really big fish and decided to throw it back.

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### Don't Get Eaten

Watch where you step and wear a life jacket if you're going near really deep water.

Bring along mosquito repellent, sunscreen and a first aid kit.

If a big fish with giant teeth jumps out of the water and tries to attack you - run away and scream.

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### Bring a Friend

Fishing is way more fun when you do it with someone else.

Always go with a buddy.

They can help you out if you're just learning to fish and can help carry your catch home.

### Know the Rules

You must have a license, or, if you are too young to require a license, you must be with a person who does hold a license.

If you don't, you could face a fine and lose your fish.

Review the regulations with your parents or guardians to ensure you understand what the regulations mean.

[Now Let's Go Fishing!](#)