



A Bear Goes Fishing

Cub Scouts · Elective · Bear rank

Name

Started

Completed

A Bear Goes Fishing helps you learn about local fish, the rules that protect them, and how to use your gear. Then you'll head out and put it all to work. Fishing teaches patience and gets you close to nature.

Requirements

Every official requirement, in plain language. Check the official wording when you sign off (scouting.org/cub-scout-adventures/a-bear-goes-fishing/). Tips and examples are ideas, not extra requirements.

☐ **1** Learn about three kinds of fish in your area

Tip: Look at a fish guide or ask a bait shop which three fish live near you.

Example: Three fish near you might be bluegill (small and round, likes shallow water), largemouth bass (big mouth, hides near weeds), and channel catfish (whiskers, feeds near the bottom).

☐ **2** Learn the fishing regulations where you live with your den leader or another adult

Tip: With an adult, look up your state's fishing rules online or pick up a rules booklet.

☐ **3** List three of those regulations and one reason each one exists

Tip: Pick three rules, like size limits, and talk about how each one helps protect fish.

Example: Size limits let young fish grow up and have babies. Daily limits make sure there are fish for everyone. Fishing license money helps pay for fish habitat and stocking.

- ☐ **4** Get to know how to safely use the fishing equipment you'll use on your outing

Tip: Practice casting in the yard with a weight instead of a hook, and always look behind you first.

- ☐ **5** Learn to attach a hook, lure, or fly to the line properly

Tip: Have an adult show you a simple knot to tie on a hook or lure, then practice it.

Example: Ask an adult to teach you a common knot, like the improved clinch knot. Practice on a hook with no point, or a paper clip, until you can tie it by yourself.

- ☐ **6** Go fishing for at least 30 minutes, practicing what you learned about fish and fishing equipment

Tip: Fish for at least 30 minutes with an adult nearby, and use what you learned.

Example: Fish for 30 minutes from a pier with your den, using the bait and knot you learned. Keep a log of what you caught or saw, the bait you used, and the time of day.