



Fishing

Cub Scouts · Elective · Arrow of Light rank

Name

Started

Completed

Fishing lets you plan a real fishing trip and choose your own gear. You'll learn where fish live, tie your hook on, and spend time on the water. Patience is part of the fun.

Requirements

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

- ☐ **1** Plan a fishing trip: decide where you'll go and what kind of fish you hope to catch; base all remaining requirements on that choice

Tip: With an adult, pick a lake, pond, or river nearby and find out what fish live there.

Example: Your plan might be: "We'll fish for largemouth bass at the state park lake on Sunday morning from the shore near the lily pads, using plastic worms." Include where, when, who, and the fish you're after.

- ☐ **2** Use the SAFE Checklist to plan what you'll need for your fishing trip

Tip: Go through each SAFE point, like having a trained adult along and wearing life jackets near deep water.

- ☐ **3** Describe the habitat where your fish might be found

Tip: Find out where your fish likes to hide, like weeds, rocks, or deep water.

Example: Largemouth bass hide near weeds, logs, and docks in warm water, waiting to ambush small fish and frogs. Trout need cold, clean, moving water with lots of oxygen. Describe the water, cover, and food your fish needs.

- ☐ **4** List the equipment and materials you'll need to fish

Tip: Make a list: rod, hooks, bait, sunscreen, water, and anything else you need.

- ☐ **5** Pick the best knot for attaching your hook to the line, and tie it

Tip: Practice an improved clinch knot or similar knot with thick string, then on real line.

Example: For most hooks and lures, the improved clinch knot works well. The Palomar knot is strong and easy to tie with braided line. Try both, tug-test each, and choose the one you can tie best.

- ☐ **6** On your own, pick the right kind of rod and tackle for your trip; have an adult check your gear

Tip: Pick your rod and tackle for the fish you want, then have an adult look it over.

Example: For panfish, a short, light spinning rod with 4- to 6-pound line and small hooks works well. For bass, you might want a medium rod with heavier line. Show your adult and explain why you chose it.

- ☐ **7** Using what you've learned about fish and gear, fish for at least one hour, following local rules and regulations

Tip: Check local fishing rules with an adult. Fish for an hour and enjoy being outside.