



Girl Scouts of Northeastern New York, Inc.
8 Mountain View Avenue
Albany, NY 12205
(518)489-8110 Fax (518)489-8065
www.girlscoutsneny.org

Goin' Fishing

Requirements- Complete #1, #7, & #8 plus
Daisy Girl Scouts - 1 other activity
Brownie Girl Scouts - 2 other activities
Junior Girl Scouts - 3 other activities
Teen Girl Scouts - 5 other activities

When you have completed the patch program you may purchase patches from the GSNENY Store.



1. Learn about basic fishing equipment. Look up in books, online, visit a local sporting good shop/store, (LL Bean, Gander Mountain & other local bait shops may offer workshops) or have a visitor with expertise come and discuss fishing.

- Demonstrate the different types of fishing reels (spinning, spin-casting, bait casting and fly fishing).
- Go over how to identify the various reels and what each is used for.
- Discuss other kinds of fishing gear such as a simple cane pole with line tied to it or the can rig.
- Learn about different kinds of fishing line, hooks, bobbers and weights and what items should be included in a basic tackle box.
- practice casting with a fishing pole (suggestion- for safety, especially with younger girls, use plastic casting plugs)

2. Learn about natural and artificial baits & lures. Look up in books, or have an angler visit and

- Demonstrate how to put live bait on your hook.
- Learn how to tie at least one fishing knot (improved clinch or Palomar). Practice tying.
- Learn different riggings, such as those used to fish weedy areas, deep waters, or on the surface.
- Find out how to make a hook barb less, (for those who mainly want to practice catch-and release fishing).



3. Learn about fish biology. Look up in books, or have a visitor come and discuss:

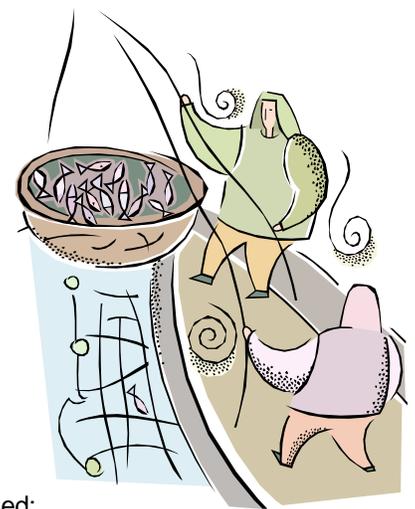
- How to identify the following: 3 different fish species found in waters in your area, and the parts of a fish (fin, gills, lateral line, barbells)
- What are cold water vs. warm water fish?
- What do fish eat?
- Where are fish found in the water (where do they hang out)? Relate where fish are found to what you would use to fish for them.

4. Learn about basic aquatic ecology. Look up in books, or have a visitor come and discuss:

- water temperature & pH
- food webs
- pollutants
- aquatic insects/invertebrates (if possible, visit a local water and catch some aquatic insects/invertebrates)

5. Learn about the proper handling of any fish you catch. Look up in books, or have a visitor come and discuss/demonstrate:

- how to hook and land fish
- taking fish off the hook
- how to properly hold different fish species to avoid sharp spines and teeth
- what to do with the fish you catch: if releasing, how to do it without injuring the fish (such as wetting your hands and where and how to properly hold the fish); if keeping and cooking, proper way to clean & prepare

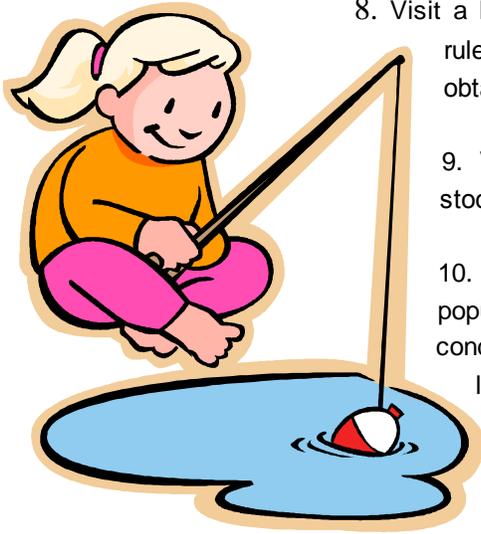


6. Fishing Safety & Angling Ethics. Look up in books, or have a visitor come and discuss:

- safety near water; from shore and in boat
- use of PFD's
- safety around equipment (what to do if someone gets hooked; care in casting to avoid hooking someone)
- proper dress and personal equipment (differences in time of year; use of layers; any special clothing items such as boots, sunglasses, hats, sunscreen and insect repellent)

7. Fisheries Management & Angling Ethics. Find out about, or have a visitor come and discuss:

- state rules and regulations regarding fishing, including such topics as fishing license
- Different seasons for different fish species; size and creel limits for fish species.
- Discuss the role of Environmental Conservation Officers in enforcing these rules.
- Basic fisheries management regarding why there are restrictions and why you should follow them. (Include subject of not releasing any extra bait into water so as not to upset the ecological balance.)
- Health advisories- what are they? Go over their role regarding eating of fish from New York State waters
- what to do if you see another angler behaving badly



8. Visit a local stream, river, pond or lake and go fishing. Be sure to check out all rules and regulations that apply to that body of water prior to your visit, and obtain landowner's permission if necessary.
9. Visit a local fish hatchery to learn how fish are raised. Find out about stocking, what it is, and its role in the state's fishery program.
10. Perform a community service project that will directly benefit a local fish population and/or anglers. You could conduct or assist a local group in conducting a youth fishing event; or you could hold a shoreline clean up on a local body of water and pick-up all the garbage.
11. Learn about at least two current fisheries management issues facing New York State today (such as the issue of lead-free tackle or public access to waterways). Is there anything you can do to help?

REMEMBER-

Don't litter. Be sure to pick up all your trash.

Don't trespass on private property to fish a local body of water.

This program was developed by Junior Girl Scout Troop 804 with the guidance of Eileen Stegemann.

Girl Scouts of Northeastern New York, Inc.
8 Mountain View Avenue
Albany, NY 12205
(518)489-8110 Fax (518)489-8065
www.girlscoutsnyny.org

PATCH PROGRAM EVALUATION

Council _____ Troop _____ Service Unit _____ Age Level _____

Leader's Name _____

Address _____
Street City Zip

Phone (h) _____ (w) _____ Email _____

Our troop of _____ girls worked on and completed the _____ Patch Program.

Please complete the following evaluation with responses from the girls.

1. Why did you choose this program? _____

2. How much time did you spend on it? _____

3. What outside resources did you use? (people, facilities, equipment, etc.) _____

4. What part did you like best? _____

5. What would you do differently another time? _____

6. What are some things you learned to do for the first time or better? _____

7. How did the adults feel about the program? _____

Patches may be obtained from the GSNENY Store.
Evaluation forms may be submitted to Linda Stephen, lstephen@girlscoutsnyny.org