

## Teachers Resource Guide

Your class is booked for: \_\_\_\_\_

Your instructors will be: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is:

**Class Agenda** • for your convenience

**Learn to Fish Objectives** • for your convenience

**Photo Consent Form** • to send home to parents to sign prior to class

**Survey Form** • to complete after class by both you and students

To Do:

1. Send home the photo consent forms.
2. Remind students to dress for the occasion, this program is delivered in all weather, so rubber boots, rain coats, warm clothes, hat, sunglasses, sun screen, fly spray.
3. Teachers need to book a large classroom, with tables and chairs, white board or screen.
4. Names of all students participating, cut up and placed in a bag/hat for a draw at the lake.
5. Students should pack a lunch, snacks, and water.
6. Teachers need to book transportation to the lake/pond.
7. Have students and teacher complete the L2F survey form and return it to \_\_\_\_\_ after completing the program.

# learn to fish agenda

## Part A Classroom Component

Time 1.5 hours in the morning

- 1 **Introduction of instructors** - who we are
- 2 **Overview** - the program across Nova Scotia
- 3 **Outline of the day** - what to expect
- 4 **Sport fish identification** - how to recognize 8 different sport fish in Nova Scotia by name and appearance
- 5 **Quiz!** - on the 8 sport fish, with a chance to win cool prizes
- 6 **Habitats** - for cold- and warm-water species
- 7 **Fish food** - what fish eat
- 8 **Age of fish** - how biologists can tell the age of a fish
- 9 **Basics of tackle** - overview of open- and closed-face reels, terminal tackle, knot tying
- 10 **Demonstrations** - by instructors
- 11 **Student participation** - hands-on fishing rod and tackle assembly.  
Barbless hooks for those students releasing their catch.
- 12 **Safety, ethics and respect** - covers bag limits; ethical harvesting of fish when keeping their catch; catch and release; respect each other, your catch, and the environment; safe use of hooks; and **Learn to Fish's** mandatory requirement for eyewear
- 13 **Health benefits** - of fishing and eating fish
- 14 **Fishing videos** - featuring 6-year-old fisherwoman Jennifer Mackenzie

# learn to fish agenda

## Part B Fishing Component

Time about 2 hours in the afternoon

Upon arriving at the lake,  
the fishing component procedure will be the following

- 1 Eyewear** Students are lined up and given a pair of sunglasses to protect their eyes. These must stay on at all times while fishing.
- 2 Baiting the Hook** Students are shown how to bait the hook and then do it themselves.
- 3 Casting Demonstrations** Instructors demonstrate overhead and sidearm casting with both open- and closed-face reels.
- 4 Rods** Students pick up their rods, space themselves out around the lake, and start fishing!
  - **Catch and Release** - Students are welcome to catch and release their fish if this is their preference. They were instructed in the classroom on how to do this safely.
  - **Catch and Keep** - Students are also welcome to keep fish to take home and eat. Large Ziploc bags and coolers with ice are provided.

## Proper Attire

Students are encouraged to dress for the occasion.

The following are highly recommended:

- sunscreen
- bug spray
- raincoats
- rubber boots
- sunglasses

# learn to fish

## program objectives

**Learn to Fish** is an interactive, informative program for **youth ages 8 to 12** focusing on recreation and an appreciation for Nova Scotia's aquatic environment. Students learn about safe fishing practices, how to assemble their own rod and reel with simple tackle, and how to identify their catch.

The **Learn to Fish Program** recruits the next generation of stewards of our aquatic resources, by teaching safe and ethical angling skills to youth.

### **1 A thorough knowledge of fish and fishing is the first step in a lifelong learning and growing process.**

Program objectives are to teach

- Sport fish of Nova Scotia (cold-water and warm-water sport fish)
- The need for proper species identification
- The minimum necessities to catch fish
- Types of fishing line and how they are classified
- Types of terminal tackle
- The difference between "bait" and "lure"
- How to tie knots
- How to add weight to a line
- How to attach a float (bobber) to the line
- How to cast

### **2 Sportsmanship and ethics are the keys to continued fishing enjoyment.**

Program objectives are to teach

- What catch-and-release fishing is and why it is important
- How to release fish unharmed
- What catch-and-keep fishing is and why it is important
- Why eating fish is good for you
- What litter is and why it is harmful
- The difference between sportsmanlike and unsportsmanlike conduct while fishing
- The role of individuals in protecting fish and aquatic resources
- The contributions of anglers in preserving aquatic resources ("NS Sportfish Habitat Stamp")

**3 Fisheries regulations and fish management activities are essential to the health of our fish populations.**

Program objectives are to teach

- Fishing license requirements
- How to read your regulations booklet
- The role of our hatcheries

**4 Fish can't live without clean water and adequate habitat.**

Program objectives are to teach

- The need for clean water
- The minimum requirements for fish to live
- The life of fish, from egg to adult
- Freshwater aquatic environment
- What fish eat and how old they are
- Some human impacts on our aquatic environment
- The importance of the entire watershed to fish survival

**5 Safe fishing practices lead to pleasant, memorable outings.**

Program objectives are to teach

- Proper lakeside safety and etiquette
- How to safely remove a hook from a fish
- Which unsafe activities lead to hooks in people

**6 Getting outdoors and participating in fishing is a healthy, recreational activity that the whole family can enjoy.**

Program objectives are to teach

- Health benefits of becoming active
- Health benefits of eating fish
- How participating in an outdoor activity makes you more aware of your natural surroundings and more likely to take an active role in protecting the resource

# learn to fish photo consent form

To be filled out and signed by parent or guardian for youths 18 years of age and under.

**Student's name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Event:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Event date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**School/youth group/club:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent or guardian's name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Complete mailing address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone number:** \_\_\_\_\_

I give permission for photographs that include my child, or artwork that my child produced, to be used for non-commercial purposes by the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture for promotional purposes in print and secure format on the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture website.

I understand that my child's name will not be identified with the photograph.

**Parent or guardian's signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

# learn to fish

## student survey form

We hope you enjoyed your sportfishing workshop!  
Please take a few moments to fill out this form and return it to us.  
We would like your comments and suggestions on our classroom presentation  
and your fishing experience.

The information you share will help us plan for next year. Thank you!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: Male  Female

**1 Have you ever fished before?**

Yes If yes, how old were you? \_\_\_\_\_

who took you fishing? \_\_\_\_\_

No If no, why not? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**2 Was today's lesson easy to understand?** Yes  No

**3 What area of fishing would you like more instruction or information on?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**4 How could we make the Learn to Fish program better?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**5 Will you go fishing again?** Yes  No

**6 How would you rate this fishing workshop?**

Please circle one.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10