

# 4-H

## Fishing Proficiency Program

### A Member's Guide

#### OVERVIEW

The 4-H Fishing Proficiency program helps you learn what you need to know about your 4-H project.

There are many resources to help you learn more about your project:

- The University of California Davis has free resources available online by visiting: <http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu/4HYouthDevelopment/>. This site lists a variety of project materials and resources recommended for use in your project.
- The Solano County 4-H Resources and Lending Library at our county 4-H Office includes other books, videos, and reference materials that can be checked out by members and leaders.
- Stores that sell fishing supplies may offer classes and other educational activities as well as equipment. Many communities have local fishing clubs that can be a great resource to you.

There are five levels in the Project Proficiency Program. You may choose how many levels you wish to complete:

- ◆ Level I – “Explorer”, you begin to learn about many different aspects of your fishing project.
- ◆ Level II – “Producer”, you practice and refine the many skills involved in fishing.
- ◆ Level III – “Consumer”, you become experienced in fishing.
- ◆ Level IV – “Leader”, allows you to show your own leadership potential.
- ◆ Level V – “Researcher”, you carry out a demonstration or experiment on some aspect of fishing.

As you work through the proficiency program, your leader will date each skill item as you complete it. When all items in a proficiency level are completed, your leader will sign the Certificate of Achievement.

# FISHING

## Level I - Explorer

Date  
Completed

1. Explain these terms:
  - Bait
  - Bobber
  - Lure
  - Casting
  - Creel
  - Rigging
  - Drag
  - Habitat
2. Name at least five items you would put in a small survival kit for fishing.
3. Explain the difference between two pieces of equipment or materials used in your project.
4. Name at least ten basic items you would take on a fishing trip.
5. Prepare a basic tackle box.
6. List five common courtesies or outdoor manners expected during fishing activities.
7. Demonstrate how to bait a hook.
8. Demonstrate safe use of at least three fishing equipment items such as a fish hook, knife, etc.
9. Make a craft item related to your fishing project (fish print, powder painted jig, plastic worms, fly wallet, etc.)
10. Name at least five different kinds of natural baits and where you would find them.
11. Explain three different ways to cook fish.
12. Identify at least three different species of fish and describe their water type, average size, baits that would be used to catch them, etc.
13. Describe how to properly care for fishing rods and reels.
14. List the items needed in a basic first aid kit.
15. Name five types of fish found in northern California and list where they are found.
16. Name a fish you could catch with a fly.
17. At what age must you buy a fishing license in California?
18. What would you do if someone was stuck by a hook?

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Leader's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## FISHING Level II - Producer

Date  
Completed

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Explain how to care for the fish that you catch until you are ready to cook them.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Participate in one field trip to a materials or equipment provider.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Draw a simple map that could be used by another person for directions on an outing.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Demonstrate how to use a compass and a map to find your way from one point to another.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Demonstrate how to tie five different fishing hooks and tell how each should be used.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Identify three locations where materials can be obtained or purchased.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Make a prepared bait to use on a fishing trip.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Display something about your project at least once outside your project meeting.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Participate in a fishing trip and plan at least one part of it, such as the equipment you need to bring, transportation, list the kinds of fish found in the waters selected, a meal for the group, etc.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Experiment with two different baits, then tell which you prefer and why.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. Help someone else by sharing your knowledge or by participating in an activity that has to do with preserving the outdoors in a pristine state, or restoration of a wildlife area.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. Keep a record of cash expenses and at the end of the year compare your product(s) value to your expenses. Could you have purchased the item(s) for less?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. Describe how different bodies of water vary in temperature and how this affects the kind of fish that will be found.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. Describe fish senses (sight, smell, taste, and hearing/sounds) and how this information will help you catch more fish.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. Give three boating safety rules.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 16. Demonstrate how to make a slip knot.

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Leader's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# FISHING

## Level III - Consumer

Date  
Completed

1. Invite a guest speaker to one of your project meetings and introduce them to your group.  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Contact a local, state or national association related to fishing and explain to your project group what this association has to offer to its members and interested individuals.  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Keep a personal reference library of literature that will be helpful in your project.  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Take part in a demonstration or judging contest specific to your project.  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Report the history of one aspect (origin, equipment, materials, techniques, etc.) of fishing to your group.  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Visit an expert in the field of fishing and report what you learned at the project meeting.  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Design an item or piece of equipment that could be used in a fishing activity. Come up with a product name and convince your project group of the usefulness of this product.  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Describe four ways to save money and be economical in obtaining materials.  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. Compare and contrast fresh water and salt water fishing using the following factors:  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - Budget                      • Transportation                      • Time
  - Terrain                      • Scenery                      • Equipment needed                      • Weather
10. Create a list of ten or more practical rules for successfully catching fish and find a way to share them with your group.  
\_\_\_\_\_
11. Alone or with your group, plan and complete a community service activity related to fishing.  
\_\_\_\_\_
12. Give a demonstration about your project.  
\_\_\_\_\_
13. Participate in at least three different fishing activities with your family or project group.  
\_\_\_\_\_
14. Bass like what type of water?  
\_\_\_\_\_
15. Catfish like what type of water?  
\_\_\_\_\_
16. Trout like what type of water?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Leader's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**FISHING**  
**Level IV - Leader**

Date  
Completed

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Serve as Junior or Teen leader in this project for one year.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Prepare teaching materials for use at project meetings.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Assist younger members in designing, selecting, or constructing something for your project.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Develop and put on a judging event or train a junior team for a judging event.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Speak on a project-related subject before an organization other than your 4-H group.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Assist a leader/adult in a fishing activity, organizing the group so that the chores/tasks are evenly distributed among the members.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Assist younger members in actually learning a specific topic in the project.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Alone or with your group, select a fishing topic you would like to know more about, research this topic, and share information with others in two of the following ways: bulletin board display, written pamphlet, news article, club/group discussion, judging kit, poster, radio spot.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Develop your own special project-related event. Create a plan, chart progress, analyze successes and/or problems and report results.

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Leader's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# FISHING

## Level V - Researcher

Date  
Completed

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Report on the results of a demonstration comparing measurable differences in some aspect of your project. (Experiment)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Prepare a paper of 300 words or give a 15 minute oral report on one of the following topics:
- Evolution of techniques used in fishing
  - History of specific topic related to fishing
  - Markets and methods of marketing fishing products
  - Development of equipment used in your project
  - Cultural influences in a specific topic related to fishing
  - Ecology of a specific geographic area, terrain, locale, etc.
  - Other

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Leader's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Certificate of Achievement

*This certifies that*

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*has completed the Fishing Proficiency*

*in Solano County.*

*Explorer*

*Producer*

*Consumer*

*Leader*

*Researcher*

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

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