

Bridge the Generation Gap, Teach Young to Fish

Here's Help for You in Instructing Them Plus Tips the Experienced Angler Also Will Welcome

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Teaching a youngster how to fish can be more fun than almost any other activity in the great outdoors.

One of fishing's greatest attractions is that it helps to bridge the generation gap. People of all ages enjoy fishing and they enjoy it even more if they know a few of the guidelines to good fishing.

Most manufacturers pack casting instructions with their rods and reels today and even the public library is a good source of illustrated information on how and where to fish.

Parents and grandparents who want to share the joys of fishing with youngsters or other newcomers to the sport might well start by gathering all the free literature on the subject that is available at sporting goods stores and departments everywhere.

Biggest selling fishing reels in North America today are the closed-face spin cast reels. While only on the market for about twenty years, they have become extremely popular because they eliminate the line-twisting and backlashing that characterized many of the old bait-casting reels.

Open-face spinning reels and fly casting reels are gain-

ing in popularity, too, but take a little more practice to master.

Advice Available
Selecting the tackle you need is part of the fun of fishing. The right rod and reel for each person is the first consideration and a wide selection of sizes and styles is available at tackle counters throughout the country.

While at the tackle counter, prospective fishermen can usually get the advice they need on what kind of lures, leaders, hooks, weights, bobbers, nets and related gear will be right for the locale and type of fishing that is planned.

Remember the little boy who was asked how he managed to teach his dog new tricks? He said, "Well, first of all, you have to be smarter than the dog."

The same thing applies to fishing. It helps to be at least as smart as the fish. Knowing where they live and what attracts them is the key.

Once you've found the fish, there are some good practices to keep in mind. First of all, be sure your tackle is rigged properly. Check the line and leader and adjust the reel's "drag" properly. Keep hooks needle sharp.

When Fish Strikes
When a fish strikes, set the hook as hard as possible. Then work the fish in by pumping and reeling. "Pump"

the rod by raising it and pulling it back toward you, then retrieve line by lowering the rod tip and reeling.

Repeat this "pump'n reel" routine until the fish is ready to land.

It is a good idea always to keep the rod high as you play a fish so that the fish has to fight the bend or flexing of the rod. When a hooked fish leaps, lower the rod quickly. Put the rod tip right down to the water. This puts slack into the line immediately and makes it nearly impossible for the fish to throw the lure or break the line.

Except when a fish leaps, keep a tight line. Put a constant pressure on the fish but don't "horse" him in — that is, don't drag him into the boat or shore with the pull of the line only.

If the fish makes a strong run, let him go. Trying to stop a determined run can pull hooks out or break the line. This is especially important when the fish is ready to be landed and near the boat or shore.

When Using Net
If using a net, lower the net into the water and draw the fish to it head-first. Never allow a companion or guide to chase your fish around with a net.

And it's a good idea not to try landing a "green" fish. A "green" fish is one that's still got a lot of fight in him. Always wear a fish down before trying to land it.

In addition to these guidelines, most fishermen would agree that there is one more thing that helps to land the big ones — a little luck!

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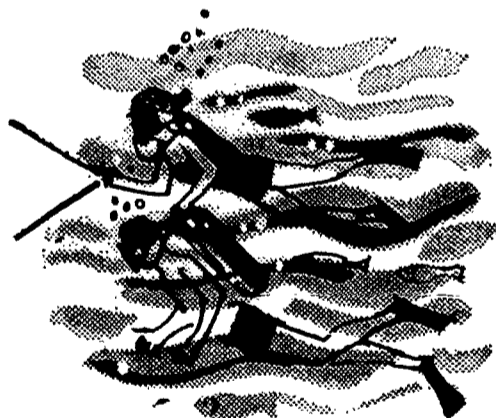
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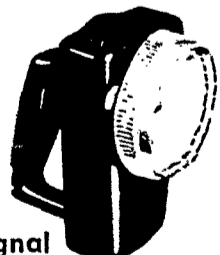


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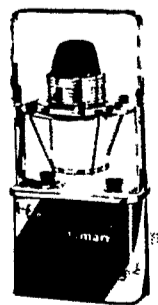
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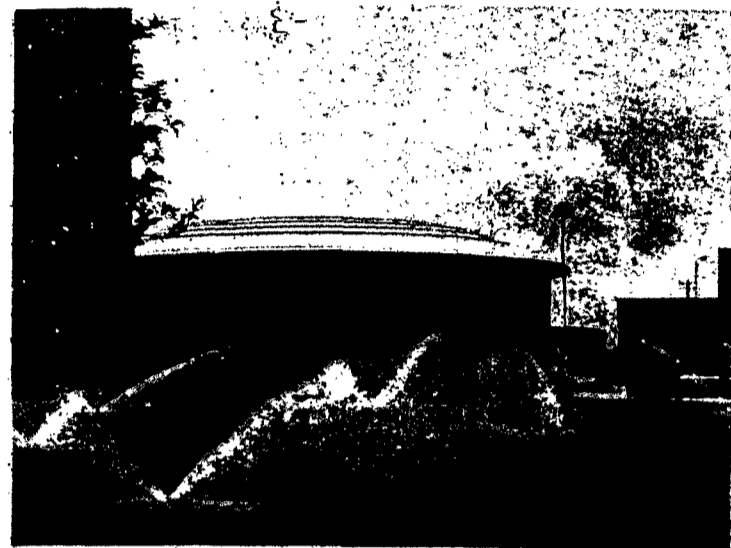


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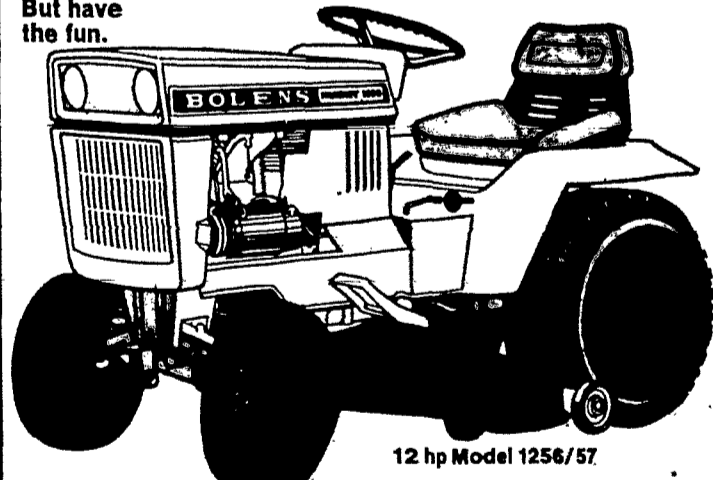
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