

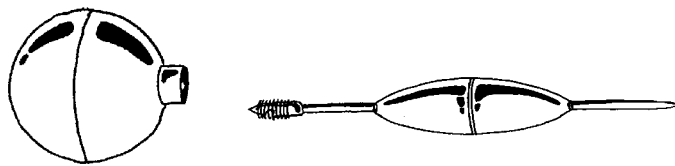
Step Outdoors

Fishing Tackle

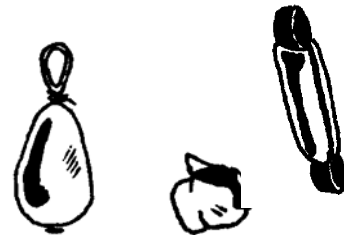
HOOKS come in a variety of sizes and shapes. Use a size of hook that is suitable to catch the type of fish you are fishing for. For example, a small hook is great for catching a Perch, but is ineffective in pursuing a Jackfish!



BOBBERS - When you want your bait to dangle in the water, (to the depth where you think the fish are swimming) you need the help of a bobber to float the bait. The red and white round bobbers come in a variety of sizes. A slip lock bobber has a long shape.



SINKERS - Sinkers are weights used to help bait or lures drop deeper in the water to reach the fish that hunt along the bottom of waterways or ponds. There are many different kinds of sinkers depending how you want your line to act.



SWIVELS - A snap swivel can help fix more than one problem. They keep the line from twisting into a ball with spinning lures. A swivel can be added so lures are just snapped on instead of tied.

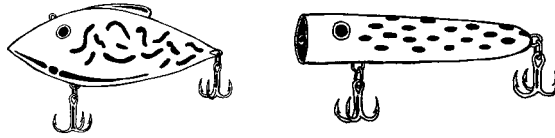
LEADERS - Some fish, like Northern Pike, have lots of sharp teeth on the edges of their mouth. This can break the line when they bite the lure from the side. If a lure is attached to a wire leader, then to the monofilament line, it helps keep the line from breaking.



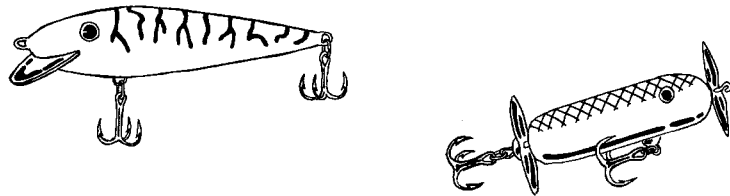
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ARTIFICIAL LURES- What would a fish eat? Each lure is designed to act like natural food.

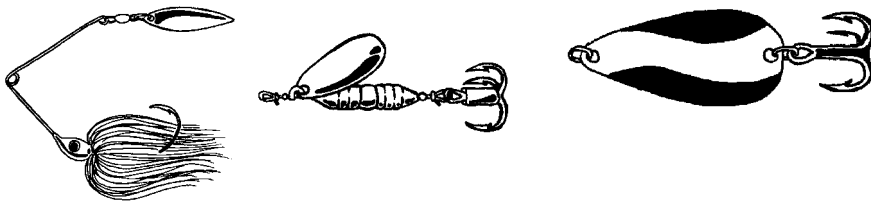
- Top water lures



- Crank bait or divers



- Spinners and spoons

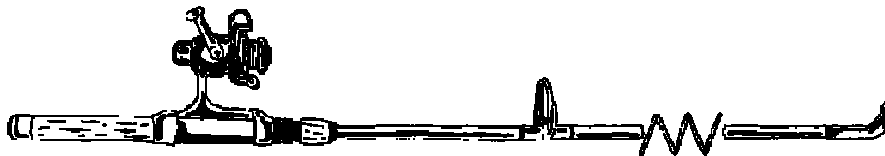


- Jigs



RODS & REELS

Spinning Reel - Most beginners can start with a spinning reel and have lots fun. Spinning reels have a bail holding the line that needs to be opened before casting. These have a few more steps to learn to use, but the reel will cast farther.



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Bait-casting reels - Many young children start with a close-face or push-button reel because they are not expensive. This reel is mounted on the top of the rod. But once they tangle, they are hard to fix. Bait-casting reels must be used holding a thumb on the line during the cast to keep from tangling. It is one of the harder reels to fish with, especially to feed line out and set the drag. A tangle is called a backlash.



Rods are divided into weights and sizes. Each rod is also marked with an action. A light or medium-light action rod is meant for small fish. A rod that is medium can be for larger fish. You should have an idea where you will be doing most of your fishing to know what size rod to buy. If you wiggle the tip side to side, you can get a feel for the action too

ACTIVITY

Have the students discuss what type of gear they might use to catch different species of fish. List other items they may want to have in their tackle box and what other things they would need or want to bring on a fishing outing.

EXTENSION

Have participant rig their line and cast from shore, dock or boat. Practice reeling in and casting again. Pick a fishing spot where it is likely to catch fish - such as a stocked pond. Not catching fish is boring. Bring snacks. Have participants try new floats etc. when the biting is slow.

REFERENCE

Manitoba Fisheries Website: www.manitobafisheries.com