

Summer fishing checklist

Fishing gear

ESSENTIAL

- Rod/reel
- Pliers and line cutters
- Tacklebox (jigs, lures, plastic baits, etc.)
- Patience and persistence*

OPTIONAL

- Bait bucket (with bait and dip net)
- Lake map (with depths)
- Fish landing net
- Seats (chairs or buckets)
- Tape measure



Personal items

- Appropriate clothing (rain gear, hat, etc)
- Bug repellent (with DEET)
- Cell phone (full charge)
- Fishing licence
- Fishing regulations (printed copy or digital version)
- Flashlight
- Snacks (high energy)
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen
- Water

Tips for fishing with young kids

Be prepared. Bring lots of healthy snacks and drinks, have a plan for bathroom breaks. Prepare rods before heading out so kids can start fishing as soon as you arrive. It can be hard for them to wait with so much anticipated excitement.

Start with short trips. Lengthen time as they get older.

Target panfish. Big fish are great, but keeping kids

engaged with more catches is key. Most children are happy to catch anything.

Enjoy the outdoors. There is more to fishing than actually catching fish. When the bite starts to slow, encourage them to explore their surroundings, look for creatures, collect rocks, launching leaf “boats” into the water, and get dirty. They can also practice their knot tying.

Ice fishing checklist

Fishing gear

ESSENTIAL

- Ice auger (hand or power with batteries/fuel)
- Ice skimmer
- Pliers and line cutters
- Rod/reel, tip ups
- Sled
- Spud bar
- Tacklebox (jigs, lures, plastic baits, etc.)
- Patience and persistence*

OPTIONAL

- Sonar (and charged battery)
- Heater (with fuel)
- Insulated bait bucket (with bait and dipnet)
- Lake map (with depths)
- Portable ice hut (with anchors and rope)
- Rod holder/bucket
- Seats (chairs or buckets)
- Small snow shovel
- Tape measure



Personal items

ESSENTIAL

- Cell phone (full charge)
- Fishing license
- Fishing regulations (print or digital)
- Flashlight
- Safety ice picks
- Snacks (high energy)
- Sunglasses
- Warm clothing (dress in layers)
- Winter jacket, snow pants, boots, gloves, hat, extra gloves/mitts, etc.
- Water (or hot beverage in a thermos)

OPTIONAL

- Foot and hand warmers
- Ice cleats

Tips for ice fishing with young kids

Start with short trips. Lengthen time on the ice as they get older.

Target panfish. Big fish are great, but keeping kids engaged with more catches is key. Most children are happy to catch anything.

Bring a toboggan if you don't want to carry a tired

child. Walking out on the ice can be good exercise, but most children are eager to get fishing.

Dress them appropriately. Bring snowsuit, hat, mitts, scarf, and waterproof insulated boots. Always pack extra mittens. Nothing takes the fun out of an ice fishing adventure faster than cold children.