

Reel Into Sport Fishing

District & State O-Rama - Junior & Senior 4-H'ers

Aquaculture & Fisheries

Objectives

1. Targeted Life Skills: healthy lifestyle choices, responsible citizenship, and environmental education.
2. To provide opportunity for 4-H'ers to learn about educational and career opportunities in the fields of fisheries management and aquatic sciences. Representatives from universities and state agencies will be available to visit with participants and answer questions.
3. To create more interest in recreational fishing.
4. To improve knowledge of fishing techniques and fish habitat.

Eligibility

Each county may enter one junior and one senior 4-H member at the Regional 4-H O-Rama. The top five senior 4-H'ers from each Regional O-Rama will be eligible to participate in the State O-Rama.

Activity

ATTENTION!!

COUNTY O-RAMAS HAVE THE OPTION TO CONTINUE USING THE ORIGINAL 4-H LEAFLET S-207, "4-H REEL INTO SPORTFISHING"

REGIONAL AND STATE O-RAMAS WILL BE USING THE LEVEL ONE 4-H SPORTFISHING PROJECT ACTIVITY GUIDE TITLED "TAKE THE BAIT"!

COUNTY LEVEL COMPETITION

Both junior and senior activities have the option to conduct county contests according to the regulations outlined in the *4-H leaflet S-207, "4-H Reel Into Sport Fishing"* (published Spring, 1999). Information regarding fish identification, habitat, and fishing methods can be found in Circular CE500, "Identification of Game and Food Fishes Found in Arkansas."

REGIONAL AND STATE LEVEL COMPETITION

Both junior and senior activities at the regional and state level will be based on information found in the *Level One 4-H Sportfishing Project Activity Guide titled "Take the Bait."* Every county office was delivered a set of Sportfishing Project Activity Guides when they were issued in 2001. Additional copies can be ordered for a reasonable price through 4-H Cooperative Curriculum System. Specific information found in the book, such as fishing methods, safety, and aquatic ecology, will be suitable material for the competitions. **A study guide is listed below to help students prepare for the Regional and State 4-H O-Rama competitions.** Additional information regarding fish identification, habitat, and fishing methods can be found in Circular CE500, "Identification of Game and Food Fishes Found in Arkansas."

Judging

County

Each contestant will be judged on tackle identification and knot tying. In addition, seniors will also be required to identify five common Arkansas fish species and determine the best location (habitat) to catch each fish. The points and score sheets are outlined in "4-H Reel Into Sport Fishing" (S-207).

Regional and State

Each contestant will be judged on tackle and fish identification, water safety, aquatic ecology, and knot tying. In addition, seniors will also be required to know information about specific Arkansas fish species and determine the best location (habitat) and equipment to catch each of the fish. An explanation of regional and state scoring is included in this packet.

Awards

The first place winner will receive a trophy (Junior and Senior Division at Regional 4-H O-Rama; Overall winner at Arkansas 4-H O-Rama). Second, third, fourth, and fifth places will receive ribbons. No ribbons will be awarded for zero scores. Fishing tackle donated by The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission will be given as prizes to first, second, and third place participants in the junior and senior divisions at the regional and state competitions.

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STUDY GUIDE

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The Sportfishing Activity Guide is a great book for a 4-H Project, especially if you enjoy the outdoors and love to go fishing. The book supplies the content for this event at the Regional and State 4-H O-Rama's. Below is a list of skills and concepts that 4-Hers should know prior to the event.

This event will be conducted in four sections: angling skills, tackle skills, aquatic ecology, and fish identification. 4-Hers will be judged based on performing skills and answering written questions, such as multiple choice, matching, fill-in-the-blank, and drawing a diagram, as described below.

Juniors and Seniors

Angling Skills

- 1.) Learn to tie the four knots listed in "Knots to Attach Snaps, Swivels, Lures, Flies, Sinkers, and Hooks" on page 9, and be prepared to tie these knots at the competition.
- 2.) Be prepared to diagram a bobber and bottom-fishing rig as described in "Rigging" on page 15.

Tackle Skills

- 1.) Study and learn the various tackle and their uses listed in "Tackling Tackle" on page 16. Be prepared to identify 5 specific tackle and describe their uses while fishing.
- 2.) Learn about building your own survival kit described in "Fishing Deeper" on page 19. Be prepared to identify or list five articles found in a survival kit.

Aquatic Ecology

- 1.) Be prepared to answer questions about water temperature and fish as described in "Water Temperatures and Fish" on page 23.
- 2.) Be prepared to answer 5 questions about the water cycle based on information found in "Water Cycle" on page 27.
- 3.) Study and learn the parts of a fish in "Sharp Teeth, Sharp Spines" on page 32. Be prepared to label 5 parts of a fish.

Fish Identification

- 1.) Be able to identify 5 Arkansas fish that are presented either live, preserved, as replicas or in photos. The Arkansas Game and Fish Aquarium will be at many of the regional and state O-Ramas, and you may be asked to identify 5 fish in the aquarium at the competition. Resources for fish identification are the "Arkansas Sportfish Identification Pocket Guide" available from the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's Aquatic Resources Program (877-676-6963, toll free) and the Extension publication "Identification of Game and Food Fishes Found in Arkansas" (Circular 500) which county offices can order on-line from Extension's warehouse.

Seniors

- 1.) Seniors will answer 5 questions about where specific fish live, how the fish looks, best water temperature, baits used for catching fish, and the best time of year to catch specific fish as found in "Know Your Fish" at the bottom of pages 12 and 20.

REGIONAL AND STATE O-RAMA SCORING
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1.) Angling Skills	
Knots	40 points (10 points each knot)
Rigging	10 (5 points each rig diagram)
Total Points	50 points
2.) Tackle Skills	
Tackle ID	25 points (5 points for each of five tackle questions)
Survival Kit	10 points (2 points for each of five survival items listed)
Total Points	35 points
3.) Aquatic Ecology	
Water Temp and Fish	25 points (5 points for each of 5 questions)
Water Cycle	10 points (2 points for each of 5 questions)
Parts of a Fish	10 points (2 points for each part of a fish labeled correctly)
Total Points	45 points
4.) Fish ID	25 points (5 points for each of 5 fish identified correctly)
Total Points	<u>25 points</u>
GRAND TOTAL (JUNIORS)	155 POINTS

SENIORS INCLUDE:

5.) Know Your Fish	50 points (10 points for each of 5 questions)
GRAND TOTAL (SENIORS)	205 POINTS