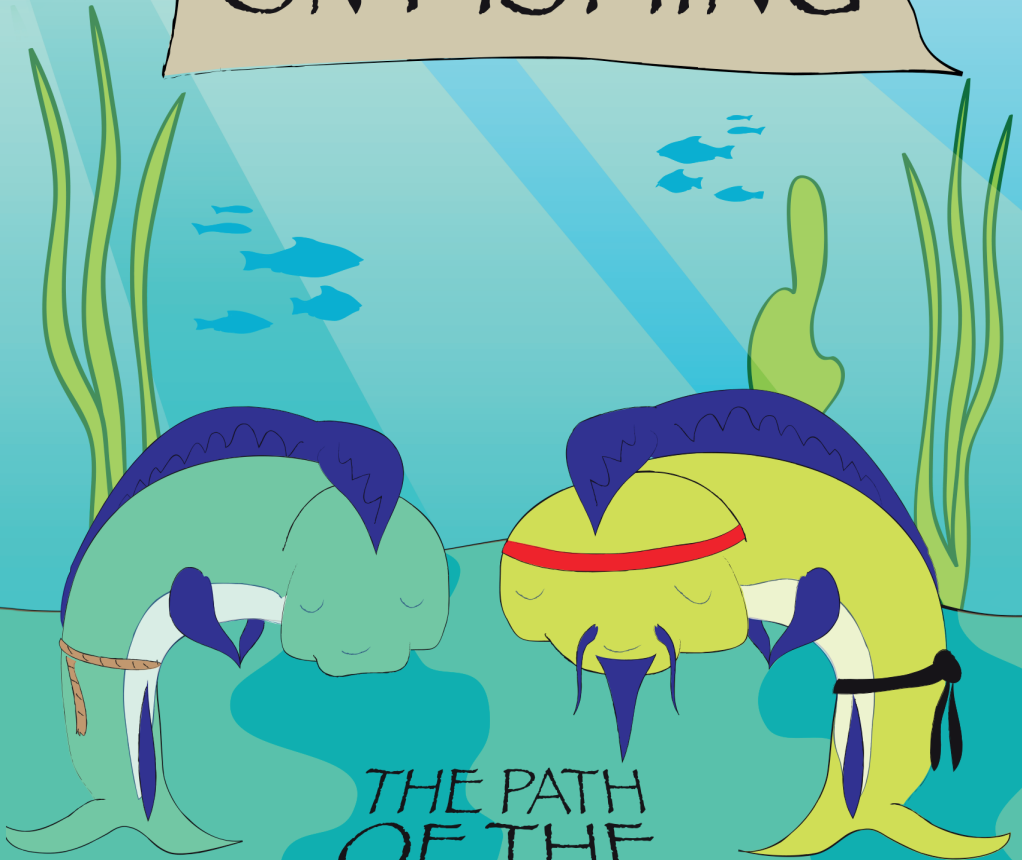




HOOK KIDS
ON FISHING



THE PATH
OF THE
ENLIGHTENED
ANGLER

A CHILDISH BOOK BY: *mr.e*

Who are the Anglers for Conservation?

The mission of the Anglers for Conservation (AFC) is to build a new generation of marine stewards using education, habitat restoration and conservation-minded projects. By establishing “Hook Kids on Fishing” programs within local recreational fishing communities, the AFC focuses on providing extended short and long-term classroom and in-the-field fishing, boating and marine conservation. We train kids, their parents, veterans and seniors.

Learn more about our programs, recreational fishing, management and conservation by visiting our website, AnglersForConservation.org; and LIKE us on Facebook!

Thank You for picking up this book!

By doing so you are taking your first step to help **Sustain Recreational Fishing!**



Practice the Three R's everyday! **Reduce**
Recycle
Reuse

Who is the mysterious mr.e?

Florida artist, cartoonist, and “Childish Book” author mr.e has been a Brevard resident for most of his life. His love of nature began at an early age where he would spend many a weekend on the Indian River Lagoon with his Conservation Sensei, who taught him how to respect nature. These days, mr.e tries to pass as an adult, but he secretly spends most of his time writing and doodling, in hopes to bring the ancient art of conservation to a new generation of anglers, who want to make a difference. Join Gil, Finn, and a new cast of crazy characters in this brand new Childish adventure!



Anglers for Conservation would like to express our sincere appreciation to the following sponsors of our Hook Kids on Fishing program's *The Path of the Enlightened Angler*.

Aylesworth's Fish & Bait, Inc.
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Mud Hole Custom Tackle
Stripers Online
The Sportfishing Conservancy
Ullian Realty

We also like to thank these folks for their continued support of the Hook Kids on Fishing programs:

Ace Hardware - Titusville
Black Dog Bait & Tackle
Brevard County Parks & Recreation
Canoe Outpost-Peace River, Inc.
Capt. Joe's Bait & Tackle
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River Walk Center
Satellite Beach Recreation
Sebastian Fishing Club
St. Marks Outfitters
TD Bank
The Ford Family
Treasure Coast Casters

Special thanks to mr.e. for his time and hard work with this project!!

www.ChildishBooks.com
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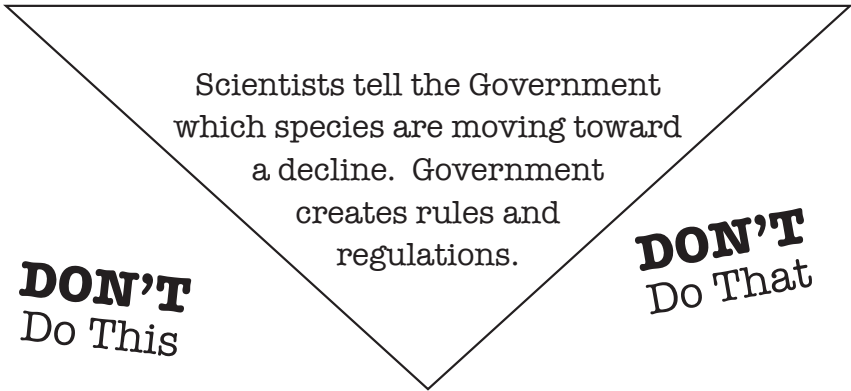
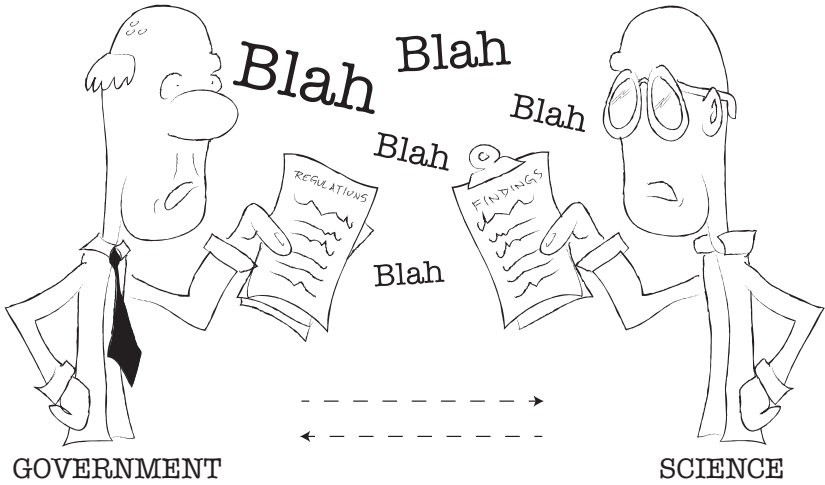


THE PATH OF THE ENLIGHTENED ANGLER

Another Childish Book
by
mr.e

www.ChildishBooks.com

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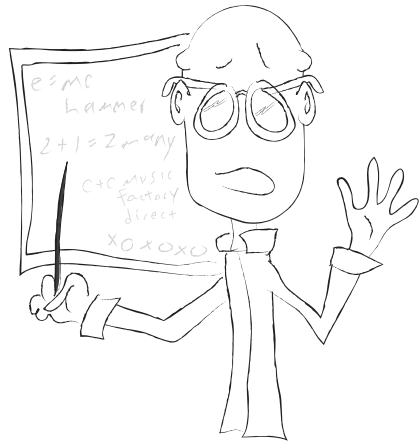
AVERAGE ANGLER



The average angler just sees a bunch of available fish and hears that he needs to leave them alone.



GOVERNMENT

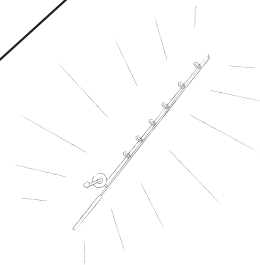


SCIENCE



KNOWLEDGE
WISDOM
POWER

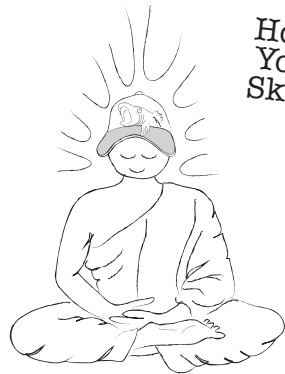
INTERPRETATION



ENLIGHTENED ANGLER

An **enlightened** angler knows and obeys the rules to help “save today for tomorrow.”

Anglers For Conservation exists to help enlighten young anglers by explaining what we can do to positively influence nature and reduce our impact on the environment.



Hone Your Skills

LET’S BEGIN OUR JOURNEY ON THE PATH TOWARD ENLIGHTENMENT

ENLIGHTENED
BAIT & TACKLE



THE RAINBOW
BOAT RAMP

THE PATH TO ENLIGHTENMENT
Knowledge • Wisdom • Power

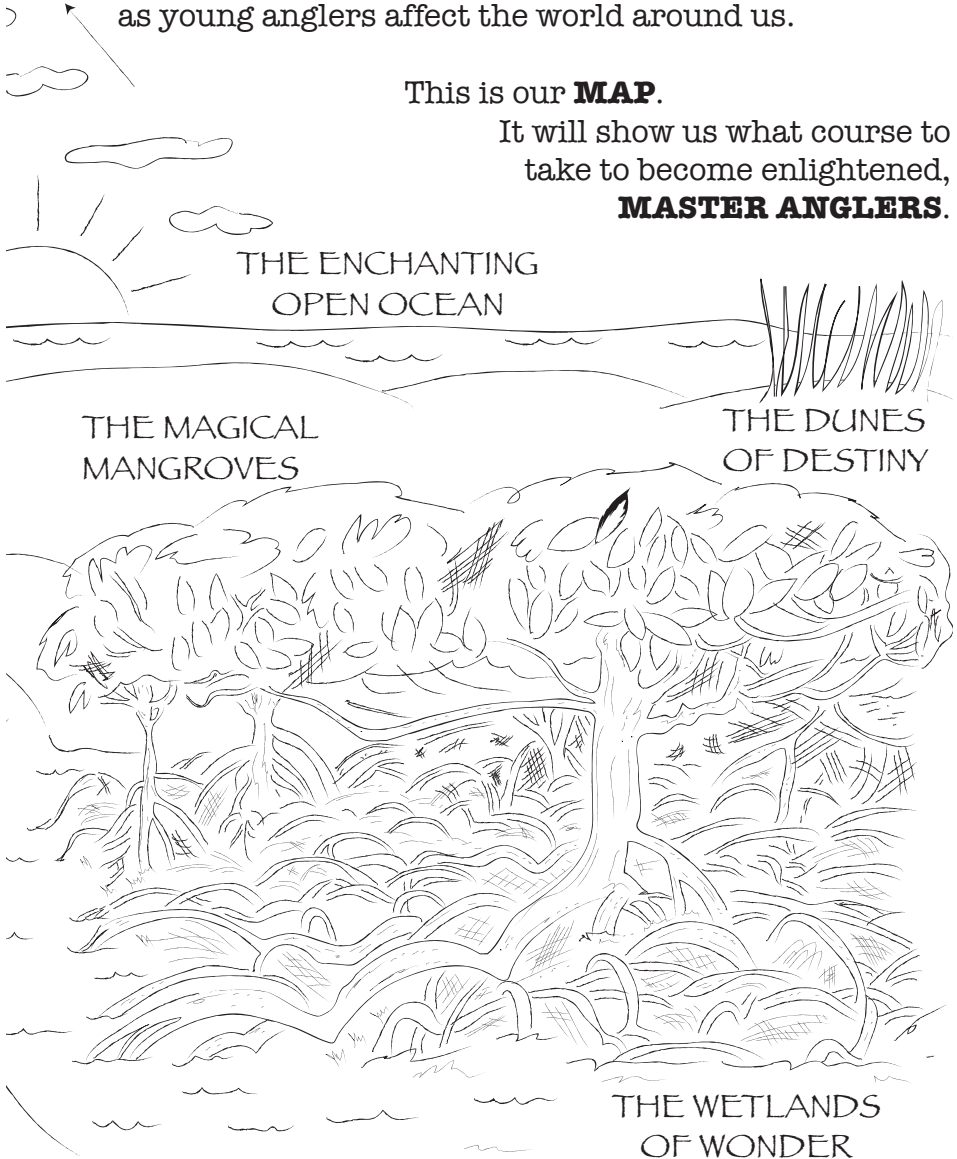


KNOW THY SURROUNDINGS

To truly know our surroundings, we must first knock down the walls between ourselves and the outside world (not literally though, that would get you in a lot of trouble). We must leave our rooms and familiarize ourselves with nature. We must learn how our actions as young anglers affect the world around us.

This is our **MAP**.

It will show us what course to take to become enlightened, **MASTER ANGLERS**.



KNOW THY SURROUNDINGS

The Watershed is the land and water pathways leading to the ocean. Ever notice the way rain runs off your roof into a gutter, then down a water spout eventually soaking into the ground? Well the watershed is like Earth's roof.

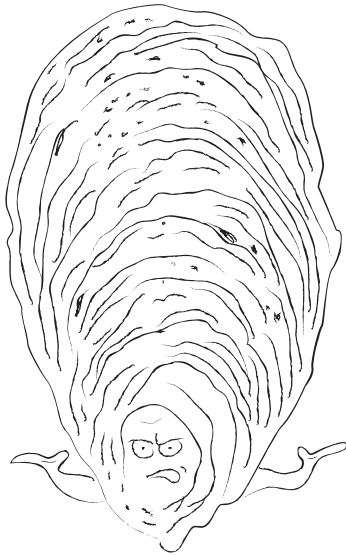
Water that soaks into soil reaches creeks, canals, and other pathways that flow to large bodies of water like coastal estuaries, rivers and eventually, the Ocean.

Things we do on land affect the quality water. Run off water will absorb parts of the soil and other pollutants we have on land, so please, be careful and clean up.



The Mangroves are a very special place here in Florida. They grow where the water is **brackish**, or a mixture of salt water and fresh water. They are home to many species of fish, as they provide shelter like no other place on Earth.

Not only do they protect marine life, but they also protect the shore lines from erosion. But their numbers are growing thin. As an Enlightened Angler, you'll have the **power** to make a difference. Let's take a look at how AFC can help us create mangroves, one of Florida's biggest contributors to healthy marine life.



HEY!
WHAT DO I
LOOK LIKE?
CHOPPED
LIVER?

(Well yeah, kinda ...)

Oysters

While our grumpy friend may not be all that attractive, he does have a point. Oysters are a **KEYSTONE** species, meaning they play a pivotal role in the ecosystem.

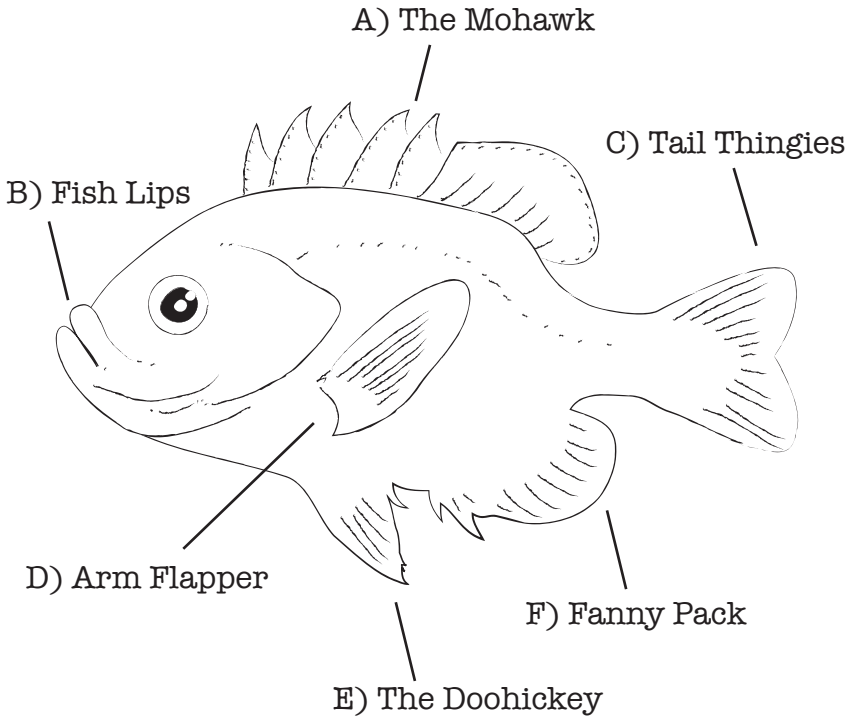
Oysters improve the quality of life in their estuaries by filtering about one and a half gallons of water each hour. They are also considered an **INDICATOR** species, as they indicate the overall health of the ecosystem.

Check out AnglersForConservation.org for more information on planting mangroves & oyster beds!

The Open Ocean is an amazing place, but with our training we must learn patience. We will learn more about the Ocean at another time...

KNOW THY OPPONENT

To be a good angler, you need to know who you're going up against. Here, we have a diagram identifying the parts of the fish, giving you a competitive advantage when trying to reel-in one of these sneaky little guys.



NOTICE

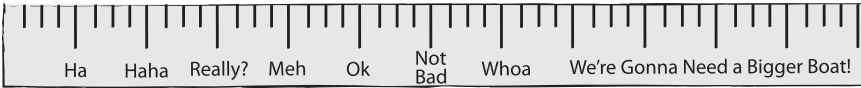
Mere seconds before we went to print, we were informed that some of the so-called “fish parts” were mislabeled. We apologize for the mix-up. Here are other, less technical names for the above fish parts.

- | | | |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| A) Dorsal Fin | B) Mouth | C) Caudal Fin |
| D) Pectoral Fin | E) Pelvic Fin | F) Anal Fin |

KNOW THY TOOLS

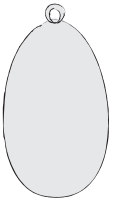
The Enlightened Angler prepares both mentally and physically before embarking on a fishing adventure.

Our first tool is the ruler. The ruler allows us to measure fish so that we know how big they are, allowing us to brag to our friends or quickly throw them back before anyone notices.

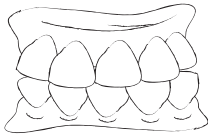


Now let's see what you know. Which of the other tools below would you take with you on your fishing journey?

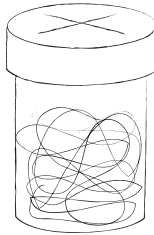
Non-Lead Weight



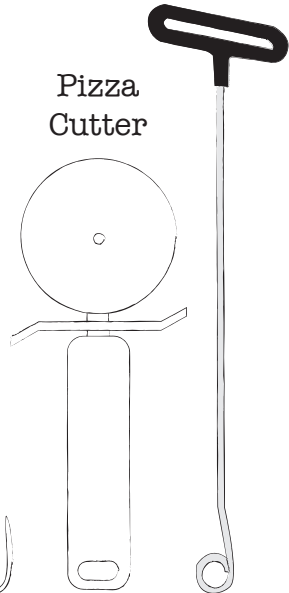
Granny's Teeth



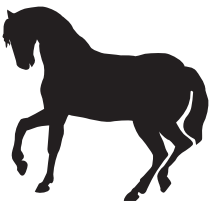
Line Discard Container



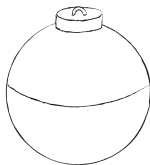
De-hooking Device



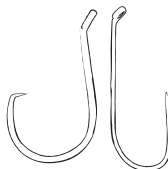
Tiny Horse



Bobber



Barbless Hooks



RIGGING

You are doing great on your journey! You have acquired a vast amount of **knowledge**. Now we need to put it to good use.

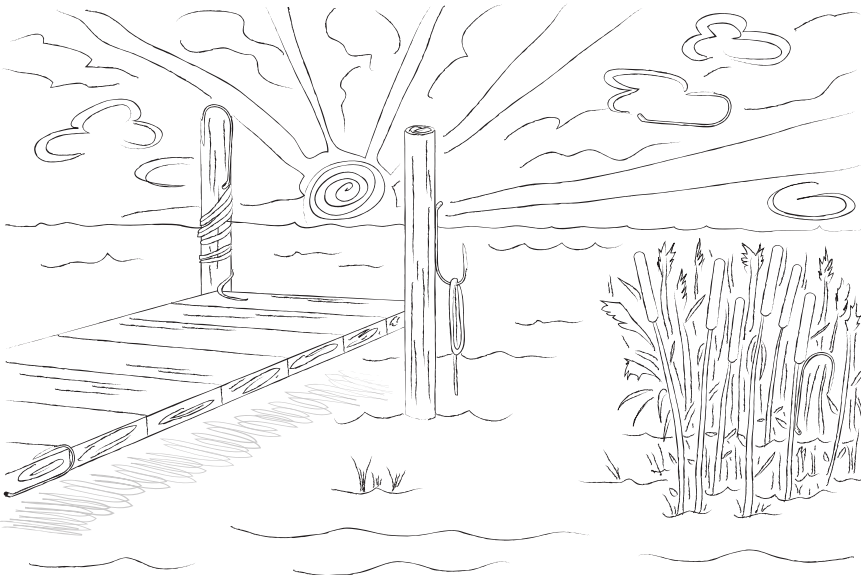
Proper rigging makes fishing more fun. Don't lose hooks...or fish! Strong knots, like the improved clinch knot explained on the next page, are great to use to help keep hooks on the line.

A strong knot keeps fish from running off with your hooks (as they love to do), and also helps prevent you from losing a hook if you get snagged on something. Wetting your knot while you tie it helps get it as tight as possible from the beginning.

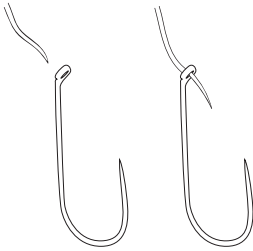
And as always, remember to be a responsible angler by cleaning up any mess you leave behind.

CLEAN UP TIME

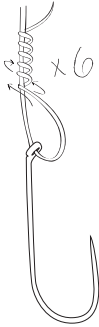
Can you find all five barbless hooks hidden below?



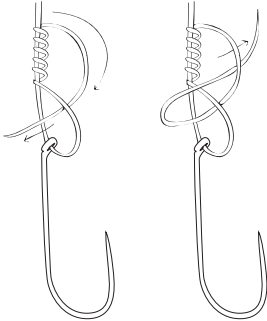
Finn will now demonstrate how to tie an improved clinch-knot. Observe...



Once through the eye,



then six twists around,



back through both loops,



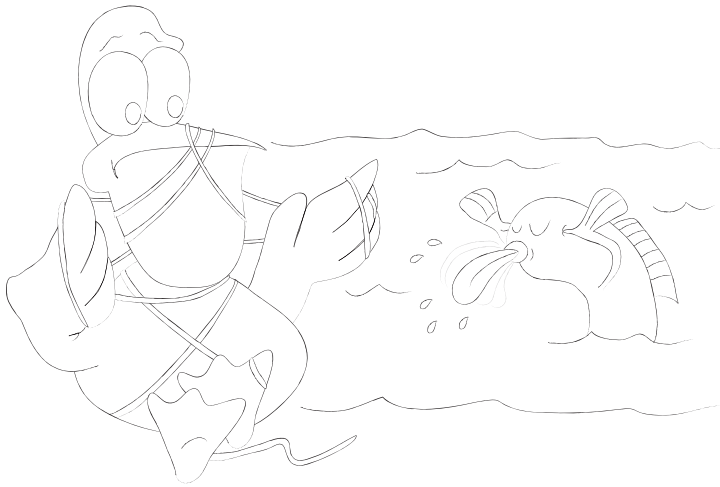
for a clinch knot that's sound.



FISHING SAFETY

The Enlightened Angler is all about safety. It is important to get a feel for your surroundings.

1. Are there other people near by? Look first!
2. Are there birds near by that will go after your bait or get tangled in your line?
3. Are your hooks barbless or are the barbs flattened?
4. Are you prepared to properly discard used line? Fishing line is dangerous!

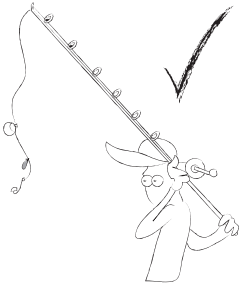


This pelican is not having a good day. Discarded fishing line is more than just an eye-sore, some animals get entangled in it and can't escape, others choke on it. That's bad karma, and discarding fishing line in an improper manner will not help you along the path to enlightenment. Make sure to put any fishing line into your line discard container when you're done using it to recycle later. Mother Nature will be pleased - and believe me, you don't want to be on her bad side!

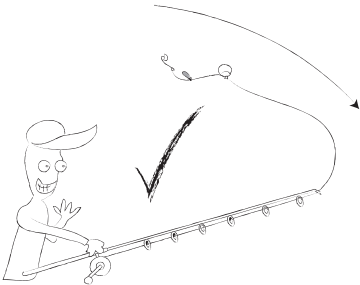
SAFE CASTING



Stand up straight.
Be aware of your surroundings.

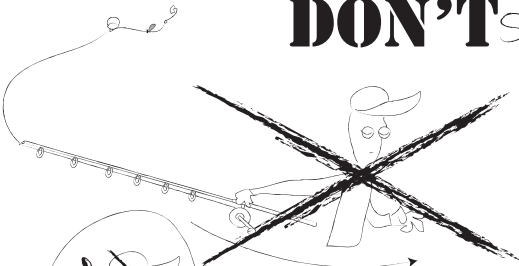


Check behind you for other
people or obstacles before
setting up for your cast.



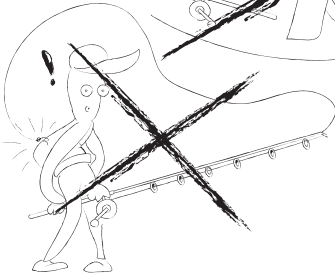
Cast overhead and in a
straight line in front of
you. Keep your eye on
the spot in which you
want your cast to land.

DON'TS



Don't cast sideways.

Don't cast with your
eyes closed.



Don't try to do stunts while
casting. This always ends
up with bad results.



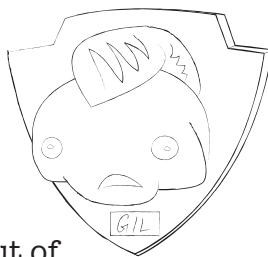
CPR

No, no, no - you've got it all wrong, Gil.
Finn's just fine ... well he was a minute ago anyway.

(He should be ok)

CPR stands for **Catch, Photo, Release**. It's a fishing practice that minimizes our impact (or footprint) on the environment.

You don't have to keep your large catches as trophies. A simple photo does just fine.



You see, by pulling all the large fish out of a fishing spot, you're throwing off the balance of the ecosystem in that lake or body of water. Bigger fish have more babies, and it takes years for fish to grow to "trophy size." By pulling all the big guys out, that just leaves a lake full of smaller fish.

By practicing **CPR**, you are helping to preserve a proper, balanced ecosystem and allowing other anglers to enjoy the same great fishing you do.

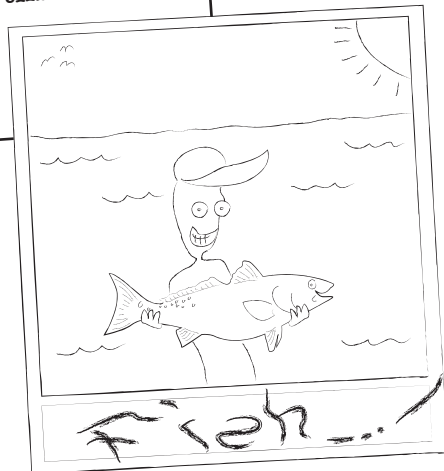
By understanding the importance of conservation, you are attaining a higher level of **Wisdom**.

Dear Fish,

It was nice meeting you the other day, thank you for biting on my barbless hook. I showed all my friends the picture I took with you, they were so impressed. They couldn't believe I got you on the boat.

Also, thanks for autographing the photo. Your handwriting is absolutely atrocious, but we'll just blame that on your lack of fingers. See ya next time!

-Kid



Always Remember the 3-BREATH RULE!

That means try not to keep the fish out of water longer than 3 breaths.

It's just good manners.

The Three R's

Do you remember the three R's? These three R's can (and should) be used every day, in most everything you do. These three R's are very powerful skills. Use them wisely.

Choose the proper **three R's** from the list below:

Reduce

Renaissance Fair

Reels

Recycle

Ranch Dressing

Redfish

Red Lipstick

Reuse

Reindeer Games

Really Tacky Hat



I'm **The Codfather** and I'd like to talk to you about what I like to call the Fourth R ...

RESPECT. That's right, respect the environment by utilizing the other Three R's, and I won't have to have my guppies pay you a visit and TEACH you respect.

And by *treating* the environment with respect, you will *gain* the respect of many other people and animals.

Here's "Lew" the Gator.

He's even grumpier than that crazy oyster from a few pages back.

Looks like he's trying to wrangle up something to eat. He likes his private life, so we should leave him alone, and certainly never feed him. Once you feed one of these guys you can never get rid of 'em, and they'll wanna be your friend and just talk your ear off ...

or your fingers ...

or toes ...

whatever's available
really.

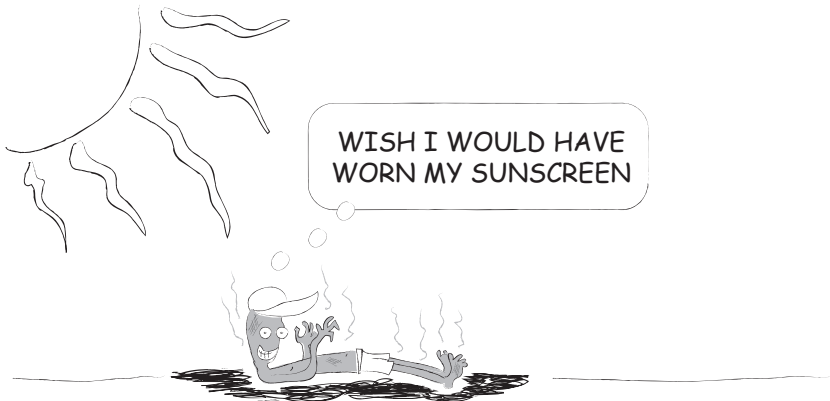


BOATING SAFETY

Boats are big and powerful, that's what makes them so much fun. But since they are so big, you must use extra caution when you're around them. Stay in a designated area, clear of the boat, as it is being lowered down the ramp. If you are six or younger, make sure you are wearing your life-preserver at all times when near the water, such as on the dock or boat.

BOATING RULES

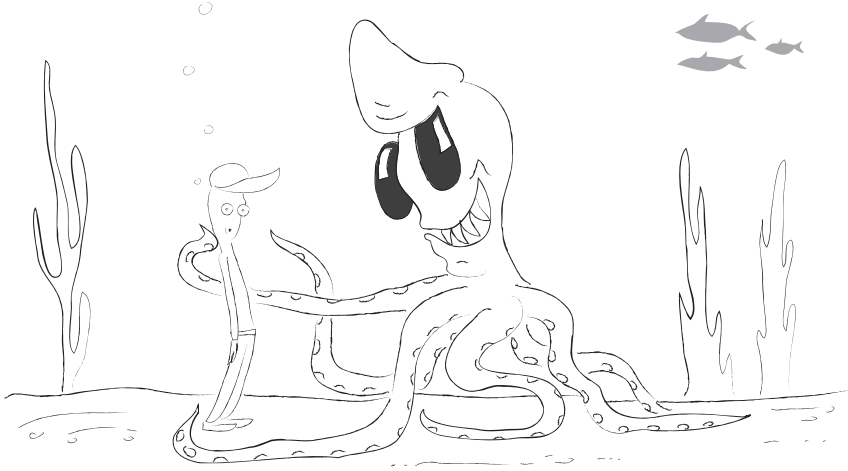
- Stay with a family member or friend at all times while at the boat ramp.
- When in boat, keep hands and feet inside the boat and always listen to and obey the captain.
- Don't sit on the boat's bow when the motor's running. Always stay seated when departing or arriving at the boat ramp.
- Remember to wear sun protection.
- If you can't swim, learn how.
- Wear your life-preserver!



Sunscreen protects you from the sun's dangerous UV rays - which can cause skin damage before you even know it is happening.

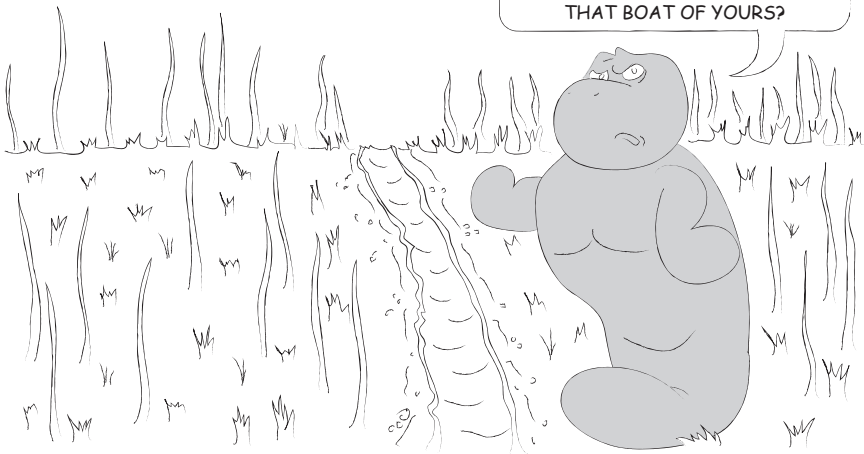
WISH I WOULD HAVE
WORN MY LIFE-VEST

Make sure to wear your
life-preserver anytime
you are near the water.



Also remember the safety of marine life and underwater environment when boating. Be mindful of the impact of your boat's propeller and anchor on seagrass, manatees, and more!

SO, DO I HAVE YOU TO THANK FOR
TEARING UP MY SEAGRASS WITH
THAT BOAT OF YOURS?



PUT YOUR SKILLS TO USE FISHERIES DATA

Fishing Location: _____

Date: _____ Start Time: _____ End Time: _____

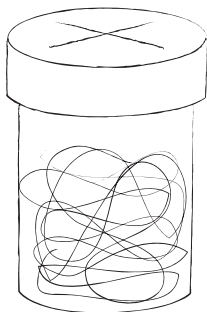
Fish Caught

Species: _____ Length: _____ Weight: _____

Bait Used: _____ [] Kept [] Released

By combining your fisheries data with other anglers' data at AnglersForConservation.org, you are helping sustain a healthy fishing environment.

Keep a form like this handy for your fishing adventures and then submit your info online at AnglerAction.org!



Here's a good way to practice your three R's, and gain yourself a great tool in the process. You can make your own line discard container out of any old plastic canister by simply having your parents (or local brain surgeon) cut a small "X" into the lid. Then you can push line in and it won't come back out until you're ready to recycle it later.

You can recycle monofilament fishing line at a local tackle shop or at outdoor PVC recycling bins at fishing piers, parks and boat ramps.

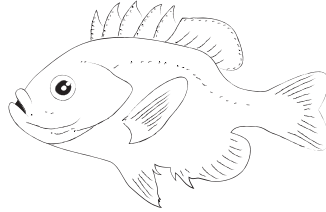
What should you feed me if you see me out on one of your fishing or boating adventures?

- A) Pizza**
- B) Gumballs**
- C) Snow Cones**
- D) Chili Cheese Dog**
- E) Nothin' ... I'm Good**

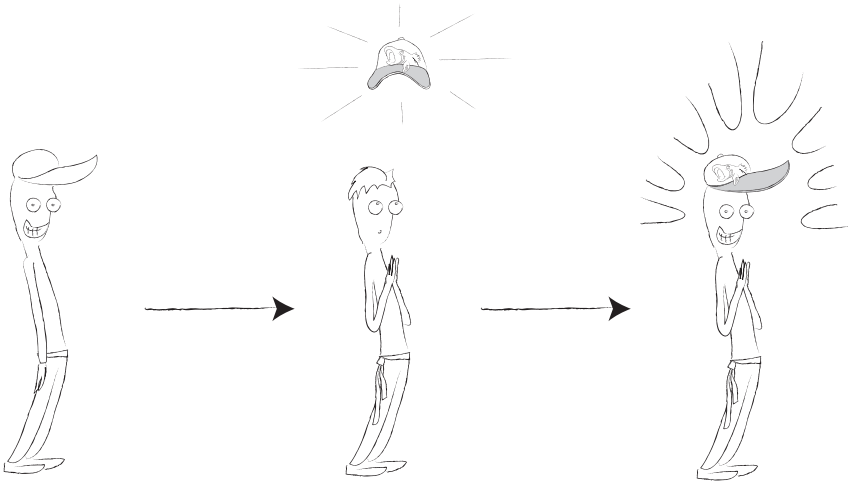


Hope you chose (E) Nothin'. That goes for my bird friends and other creatures too. We need to find our own food so that we can gain knowledge, wisdom & power as well!

**YOU
MAY
PASS**



Uh-Oh! I sense a transformation ...



What can this mean? (turn page to find out)

CONGRATULATIONS!

YOU HAVE ATTAINED ENLIGHTENMENT!









Balance has been restored to the ecosystem. With your newly acquired **Knowledge & Wisdom**, you now have the **Power** to make a difference. Spread the message, and help save this great planet!

Enlightened Sponsor Directory



The Path of the *Enlightened Angler* could not have been done without the support of these special contributors!

<p>Aylesworth's Fish & Bait, Inc.</p> 	<p>1295 - 28th Street S, St. Petersburg, FL 33712 (800) 227-4577 voice; (727) 327-8608 voice (727) 323-6753 fax; dawn@fishandbait.com</p>
<p>Diiachi Hooks Daiichi</p>	<p>TTI Blakemore Fishing Group www.ttiblackmore.com (800) 421-5768</p>
<p>Fisherman's Village </p>	<p>Located on Marion Avenue, Punta Gorda, FL Take I-75 South to Exit #164, turn left on Hwy. 17, proceed 3 miles to Village www.fishville.com (800) 639-0020</p>
<p>Fish Florida </p>	<p>Fish Florida is a non-profit organization whose mission is to promote public awareness and encourage the protection of marine fisheries and coastal habitats – conservation through education! fishfloridatag.org</p>
<p>Fish on Fire </p>	<p>www.fishonfireorlando.net 7937 Daetwyler Drive, Orlando, FL 32812 (407) 812-6881</p>
<p>Florida Fly Fishing Association </p>	<p>www.floridaflyfishing.org P.O. Box 542345, Merritt Island, FL 32954 Contact Betty Brown (321) 504-7881 Beth Clifford (321) 254-3209 Jim Mallory (321) 452-4861 Jim Wood (321) 725-4581 info@floridaflyfishing.org</p>
<p>Florida Mariner Magazine</p>	<p>P.O. Box 8070, North Port, FL 34290 www.FloridaMariner.com Cristina Jones (941) 488-9307</p>

<p>mr.e</p> 	<p>Looking for a New Way to Reach a Younger Audience? mr.e works hand in hand with non-profit organizations and small businesses, to find new ways to deliver a message through his custom childrens' books. childishbooks.com</p>
<p>Mud Hole Custom Tackle, Inc</p> 	<p>Mud Hole Custom Tackle, Inc. is the world's largest supplier of tackle crafting goods – rod building, fly tying and lure building. www.mudhole.com</p>
<p>Stripers Online</p> 	<p>Tim Surgent StripersOnline.com</p>
<p>The Sportfishing Conservancy</p> 	<p>The Sportfishing Conservancy's Blue Footprint - light touch approach to management and enlightened use of resources offers a positive step. 200 Nieto Ave. Suite 207, Long Beach, CA 90803 Phone: (805) 895-3000 info@sportfishingconservancy.org</p>
<p>Ullian Realty</p> 	<p>Mr. Ullian has specialized in Commercial & Industrial Real Estate Brokerage and Development specifically in Melbourne Palm Bay since 1984. Michael S. Ullian, President, CCIM, SIOR The Ullian Realty Corporation 1985 Penn Street, Suite 11, Melbourne, FL 32901 Phone: (321) 729-9900 Email: mike@ullianrealty.com Web: http://showcase.costar.com/mike@ullianrealty.com</p>
<p>Wells Fargo Advisors</p> 	<p>Chad L. Helping, CFP®, Financial Advisor Wells Fargo Advisors 1499 South Harbor City Boulevard, Suite 400 Melbourne, FL 32901 Tel (321) 409-4412, (800) 226-0402 Fax (321) 725-1839 chad.helping@wfadvisors.com</p>

Fishing Notes

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Remember your first fishing pole? Family fishing trips? Your first fish? Fish Florida helps kids have those same experiences!

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conservation through education

By purchasing a Fish Florida specialty license plate, featuring a sailfish, Fish Florida gets \$22. With the money, they support fishing and conservation education programs with donations of fishing equipment, grants, and scholarships (like our own *Hook Kids on Fishing Program!*).



Show your support to kids fishing programs by buying a new Florida license plate for your vehicle or boat trailer.

**You Give
We Give
Kids Fish**

IT'S
WIN-WIN
REALLY!

