



Kokanee Karnival Youth Education Program

Spring Angling Clinic Curriculum

Introduction

This document is Part 4 of the Spring Angling Clinic curricula – Knot Tying – Station 3. Volunteers will set up this station in the morning. This part of the curriculum consists of the following parts:

- A. Set Up
- B. Initial Discussion
- C. Surgeon's End Loop
- D. Improved Clinch Knot
- E. Surgeon's Knot/ Bobber Attachment
- F. Clean Up

A. Set Up

On the first day, the station needs to be set up. The station consists of three or four tables arranged in a "U" shape with at least 10 chairs around the outside. This gives the volunteer instructors the ability to work with all students from the inside of the "U".

Unload the Knot Tying station materials from the trailer. Place the diagrams of the knots, clippers, and tying materials at each student seat at the tables. Set up the banner for Station 4. Some instructors use sections of white cord and others use monofilament fishing line. If using monofilament, the instructors need to cut sections of the monofilament to least 12 inches long.

B. Initial Discussion

When the students arrive at the station, introduce both volunteers, and give a brief outline of what they will be doing at the station. Remind the students that they had knot tying as a part of Angling Education. They tied the Improved Clinch Knot and Surgeon's End Loop. Tell them they will tie these knots again. It is useful to have one of the fishing rods at this station to show the students how both knots are used.

Some students will be able to tie the knots quickly and others may have problems. Install the team spirit to the group and ask students who can tie the knot to help those who may be having problems. Remember the students will have 20 minutes or less at each station. Instructors should watch their time. The time keeper will sound the duck call when time is up and the students should rotate to the next station.

C. Surgeon's End Loop

Give each student a section of tying material. Using a section of the bright colored rope, show the students how to tie the Surgeon's End Loop, slowly. This makes it easier for the students to see what the instructor is doing. You should show this two or three times so all the students can see the process. Show them the knot on the diagram. Remind them they tied this knot in the Angler Education class. Tell them



some uses for this knot, making a snell for fishing, show them how the knot is used to attach the hook to the swivel on the fishing rod, and that it is a quick method to tie two lines together.

Now have the students tie the knot. You will find that 4th grade students may have a more difficult time tying the knot than 5th grade students. When a student completes a knot, the volunteers should check it. If it is a good knot, give them another section of monofilament to tie it again, or have them repeat the knot, but faster. Have them tie two loops and join them. Volunteers may need to work one-on-one with some students to help them tie the knot. This is when successful students can help others. Tell them they are acting as a student instructor, this gives them some recognition and makes them really get involved in helping. The students can tie two End Loops and you can show them how to tie the two loops together.

It is important to try to take only 5 to 8 minutes for this knot. Then move to the next knot.

D. Improved Clinch Knot

Each student gets a section of monofilament and a “hook”. Using the big eye bolt and a section of bright rope, a volunteer should tie this knot. You should tie this knot about three times to allow all students to see this knot. Remind them they tied this knot in the Angler Education class. Point to the knot on the diagram. Tell them the main use for this knot is to tie a hook or fly or lure to a fishing line. It is beneficial to tell them that when they are fishing and the hook or fly or lure breaks off, they should look at the end of the fishing line. If it is straight then the line broke but if the end is curled or twisted it probably means the knot was tied incorrectly and the hook just pulled off.

Have the students tie the knot. When a student completes this knot the volunteers should check it. If it is a good knot, congratulate them and give them another piece of monofilament to tie it again. If it is a poor knot, point out what they did wrong and give them another piece of monofilament to try again. Just as with the Surgeon’s End Loop, volunteers may need to work one-on-one with some students to help them tie the knot. This is when successful students can help others. Tell them they are acting as a student instructor, this gives them some recognition and makes them really get involved in helping.

You may need to allow 8 to 10 minutes for this knot because it is more difficult for the student to tie.

E. Surgeon’s Knot/Bobber Attachment

This is an optional activity should the time be available. Either can be used depending on time available. It is more important to have the students successfully tie the Surgeon’s End Loop and Improved Clinch Knot than to try to do a third knot.

If there sufficient time the instructors can give each student two pieces of monofilament and show them how to tie the Surgeon’s Knot. This can be really difficult for student to tie and often sufficient time is not available for this optional activity. Use the bright rope to show how this knot is tied. Tell the students this is a strong knot used to tie two pieces of fishing line together. You can use this knot as an activity with some of the students who complete the other knots and seem to be bored. This keeps the more advanced students involved and they will not distract other students from the tying the other knots.



If less time is available, show them how to properly attach a bobber to fishing line. This is a useful optional activity because shows another piece of fishing equipment that they will be using in the afternoon. Show them how an improperly attached bobber slides along the line but how a properly attached bobber stays fixed in place.

Another optional activity can be to have tying races just as the students did in class. You can have the students tie the Surgeon's Loop knot behind their back or with their eyes closed. This is a race, have all the students take the tying material and hold it either in front of them for the eyes closed race or behind their back. When you say go, the students tie the knot and when done they hold it up and say fish on. This can make the tying fun and gets the students involved

F. Clean Up

When a group is done, the volunteers should trim all monofilament from the hooks and dispose of it in the trash. Trim additional monofilament sections for the next group.

At the end of the day, clean up all the station materials and place them in the boxes for overnight storage. The tables and chairs can remain set up overnight and only need to be cleaned up on Friday and the last day of the Spring Angling Clinic. The Sunriver Anglers will clean up the tables and chairs when they clean up Aspen Hall. The station volunteers will need to place the materials in the trailer.