



# I Fish NY Patch Program



Younger girls, grades K-5, must complete two activities from Discover and one activity from Connect. Older girls, grades 6-12, must complete two activities from Discover and two activities from either Connect or Take Action. In addition, all girls must complete activity nine from Take Action.

Patches are available for purchase at the GSNC Shop. Reserve your patches at <https://gsnc.wufoo.com/forms/gsnc-patch-program-patch-request/>  
You will be contacted when your patches are ready for pick up at the GSNC shop.

## DISCOVER:

1. Identify three local fresh or saltwater fish species. Learn the function of the outside body parts of fish.
2. Learn to tie two common fishing knots such as the clinch, improved clinch, palomar or dropper loop.
3. Identify safety concerns when fishing and boating. Learn how to safely cast a fishing rod. If assistance is needed, contact a local fishing club or bait and tackle shop.
4. Identify different types of fishing rods and bait options. Learn when its best to use each type.

## CONNECT:

5. Plan a trip, or use books or the internet to identify places to fish in your area.
6. Meet a New York State Environmental Conservation Police Officer. Learn about rules and regulations, stewardship and conservation.
7. Visit a local fish hatchery to learn how fish are raised and their role in New York State's fishery.
8. Spread the word about fishing by making a poster or collage that expresses good stewardship practices.

## TAKE ACTION:

9. Go out and fish! Be sure to be a good steward.
10. Develop and perform a community service project that will benefit New York State's fishery.
11. Conduct an interview, or use books or the internet to learn about two fisheries management issues facing New York State today.

## I FISH NY: Patch Program Resources

Connequot River State Park Preserve | contact information for the fish hatchery in Oakdale, NY.

- Website: <http://nysparks.state.ny.us/parks/info.asp?parkId=69>

I FISH NY | education program that offers fishing clinics for Long Island and New York City residents. Loaner rods and instruction are provided free of charge. Troop must pay for the cost of bait. Group size ranges from 12 to 30 participants. Salt or freshwater. Up to three hours in length.

- Websites: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/89362.html>  
<http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/96037.html>
- Contact information: 631.444.0283 or [lfishNY@dec.ny.gov](mailto:lfishNY@dec.ny.gov)
- Kozlowski, Greg. *Getting Started: A Beginner's Guide to Freshwater Fishing*. Call 631.444.0280 for a free copy.

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation | provides information on fishing, fish species, rules and regulations and more.

- Fishing website: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/fishing.html>
- Regulations and Enforcement website: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/65.html>
- Animals, Plants, and Aquatic Plants website: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/23.html>

Nor'east | information on fishing knots and more.

- Website: <http://www.noreast.com/knots/knotsindex.cfm>

Take me Fishing | general fishing information such as locations, techniques and more.

- Website: <http://www.takemefishing.org>