

FOREWARD

Did you know that angling is the only sport that almost everyone tries at some time in their life?

Usually most people have their first (or one and only!) "dabble" during their school years but sadly, due to a lack of help and encouragement, interest is soon lost. When this happens angling loses and more importantly, you lose. You lose the opportunity to participate in one of the most rewarding of sports.

Thankfully some positive steps are now being taken to put matters right. Right across the country many people actively involved in fishing, the tackle trade, leisure services and schools are working together to ensure that any would be young anglers are given as much help and encouragement as possible.

It does not matter whether your preferences are for catching big fish, competitions or simple sitting by the waterside - angling offers so much. However, angling is not unique. In order to achieve satisfactory results you need to have a reasonable grasp of the basic skills and techniques. You need to put in some preparation time before a trip. Do not be afraid to approach adult anglers, ask their advice on tackle, venues, baits, etc., sit quietly and watch them fishing - observe their techniques keep your eyes on the noticeboards at school or youth club for items about angling tuition. There is far more available to you than ever before. This guide alone is strong evidence of that.

So join in some angling education sessions. Learn how to fish. Learn about the environment and the key role angling has to play in environmental matters. One word of warning however, the river or canal bank can be a dangerous place, particularly if you are careless so learn too about how to be safe!

Most of all, go out and enjoy yourself!!

Tight lines to you all.

David Kent
Chairman
Education Committee, N.F.A.

