

BOATING SAFETY ACTIVITIES

EDUCATION AND FUN WITH A PURPOSE

“CHECKLIST RELAY”

Activity:

A checklist of recommended equipment for boating is established. Each item is assigned a point value based on its bulk or size. The larger the item, the higher the point value. Suggested equipment for this relay is as follows:

- ✓ extra line or throw bag
- ✓ bailer or bucket
- ✓ first aid kit
- ✓ paddles or oars
- ✓ flashlight
- ✓ sunscreen and sunglasses
- ✓ whistle
- ✓ compass, charts and maps
- ✓ cellular phone
- ✓ spare fuses or bulbs
- ✓ extra food and water
- ✓ anchors
- ✓ small mirror for signaling
- ✓ garbage bags for rain ponchos
- ✓ blanket

Life jackets while enforced as **minimum required equipment** are not part of this list of **recommended equipment** since every participant will be wearing a life jacket. The aspect of a life jacket for every person onboard as **minimum required equipment** should be emphasized.

Similar to other relays, at least two teams with two equal sets of recommended equipment are established. Whether the relay is conducted across the length of a pool or on a playground, it can be a timed event with total point values determining the winners or once all items in the set are relayed to their destination. Destinations for items can be from one team participant to another, to a fixed point for all items or different destinations for each item. Other equipment (water-skis, fishing rods, diving gear etc.) can be included and mixed with the recommended equipment. The objective with this mixture of equipment is for recommended equipment only to be selected. Minus point values are given for non-recommended equipment transferred during the relay.

Purpose:

To create and awareness for what equipment is recommended for safe boating and knowing what to bring is the first step to being prepared.



SURVIVOR—NOT THE T.V. SERIES

Sally shows the H.E.L.P. (Heat Escape Lessening Posture) used in the event you are thrown overboard. When thrown overboard, the first rule is to try to get back in the boat or in the event the boat capsizes, stay with the boat. In the event neither one of these is possible, keep all your clothing on and assume the H.E.L.P. position.

Activity:

The activity is to find out who the “survivor” is when in the water. One participant using the H.E.L.P. position wears a life jacket and another participant uses the H.E.L.P. position without a life jacket. At the sound of the whistle a third participant keeps time with a stopwatch. As the activity continues, the participants are paired up and given the choice to wear or not to wear a life jacket. After the initial matchup, most will agree that in order to be a “survivor,” one must wear a life jacket.

Purpose:

To show and have the participants experience the difficulties of flotation without a life jacket and demonstrate the necessity to wear a life jacket at all times in order to be a survivor.

