



KOZ Monthly Outdoor Training ©
March 2021: *Big hooks, Big Time Fishing*

7:30 Leader Meeting and Prayer time. This time is imperative and gives the leadership time to prepare their hearts for the meeting and time with the kids. Do not take this time lightly. Be on-time, meet with God first.

Leader Prayer: Lord lead us today in all areas. Prepare our hearts Holy Spirit, prepare the hearts of the boys we will mentor today. [Galatians 6:9](#) - And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.

8:30 Kids begin to arrive. Meet parents or guardian (make sure your releases are in place).

BEGINNING YOUR MEETING WITH KOZ STRUCTURE

8:45 Begin Meeting.

All together say your country's pledge.

KOZ Prayer: Lord, Thank you for making us strong and fierce warriors for you. We hunt, we fish and we share our faith with others. God Bless our Country. -Amen

KOZ Pledge: "No KOZ Left Behind" I solemnly pledge under oath that I will never leave my KOZ brothers behind. I will always be kind to them, help them when they look like they have too much, run to them when they yell for help, give them the best seat and first chance at everything. They are my brother's; we fight trouble together.

Work to get the boys to memorize the KOZ Prayer and use it as a tool for kids who have little experience in praying or are afraid to pray. (Before meals, before an adventure or other times as a reminder of who they are and what they represent).

LEADING INTO YOUR OUTDOORS SKILLS TRAINING

Leader's first questions/discussion. Outdoor Training

Catching Big Fish, Using Big Gear.

Big fish stories are pretty common no matter where you live. The giant bass, the big catfish, the huge pike or a monster shark are all exciting and fun to catch. But it takes gear and knowledge to land a fish big or small.



Leaders first questions/discussion, outdoors training:

- What is the biggest fish you ever caught?
- What types of fish live near you and which are the biggest ones?
- What is the biggest fish in the world?
- What do you think about shark? If shark lived in lakes, would you be scared to swim there?
- What are some of the types of gear you can use when fishing for big fish? (Rod/reel, trout line, jug lines, hand lines, harpoon)
- ~Leaders can tell stories of big fish here. (true or not?)

LEADING INTO YOUR HEART TRAINING

Scripture Training: Leader's first questions/discussion

Heads Up HTL's:

This year we are teaching the boys the mantra "Do Hard Things." We want them to have in their minds that at the end of the day they are capable of doing things they never thought they could. When they learn they can hit a target, catch a fish, hike 3 miles or change the tire on a tractor they move closer to their design, the embrace a piece of their masculinity. From their they have confidence in school and in life situations they may not have had in the past. Each month you should as also challenge them to **memorize the scripture** for that month. Have them write it, repeat it and learn it! There is also a "DHT Challenge at the end of the day for them to take away.

Scripture: Jonah 1:17, And the Lord appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

Leaders first questions/discussion, bible training:

You may have heard all kinds of stories from the bible. Stories about giants and boys with sling shots, big boats with all kinds of animals. The bible is an amazing book, the number one selling book of all time. Why, because of everything it teaches us. It is important to understand what he stories mean when you read them and how they make a difference to YOU!

- Are the stories in the bible true?
- What kind of fish had to be the one that ate Jonah?
- Why was Jonah in the water to begin with?



- Have you ever done something that you knew was wrong get everyone around you in trouble? How did that make you feel?
- What is a really big decision you had to make one time?

NOTE: Let them talk – leave time between when you say something and they can speak – let it be silent for a while if you have to – they grow close in times of quiet – allow Him to come.

STOP & BEGIN OUTDOOR SKILLS TRAINING & ADVENTURE

BEGIN OUTDOOR SKILLS TRAINING: IDEA TRAIL

Fishing tackle comes in all shapes and sizes. Perch jerking to sail fish, catfish to fly fishing there are so many choices. It is a wide and wonderful world out there if you love to fish. Key note here, fishing wears you down, catching is the key!

Things to do this month:

- Go fishing.
- Build fishing poles.
- Make wooden fishing lures.
- Go to a local retail store with a different leader teaching on each section of fishing products.
- Have a fishing guide come and tell stories or teach.
- Make a large trout line or jug lines.
- Clean up a water way, lake, pond, sea shore.
- Go to state aquarium or stocking farm.
- Ask state or federal fishing service to speak.

FIELD NOTES: Other CRITICAL TEACHING should include:

Weather. Where to find forecasts. What they mean. Can they be trusted?

Catching. Even if they are the smallest perch. This is always the best option, catching fish.

Parks and Wildlife/Federal Fisheries. Check your area for fisheries and stocking ponds run by state and federal agencies. They may allow visits and even some fishing.

Conservation. All information on “Leave no trace,” and water quality tips and info can be a part of the lesson.

Other places for good information and literature.

- **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association:** <https://www.noaa.gov> – they have some great conservation videos and information on the oceans.



- **Texas Parks and Wildlife Angler Education:** (Your state or country may have similar tailored to your area. <https://tpwd.texas.gov/education/angler-education>)
- **Berkley Fishing Gear:** There are some cool article and tools here. <https://www.berkley-fishing.com/Berkley-angler-education.html>

There are so many good shark, sail fish and other fishing videos on Youtube – but pre-watch them for language and quality.

GOING OFF THE TRAIL THIS MONTH?

IMPORTANT: Use the opening/use the close, prayer/ sit spots and prayer cards.

All groups should use the foundational structure of KOZ each month. The starting, the prayer, sit spots etc. as a common element to every meeting. Everything from sledding to swimming, hiking to fly fishing. The key to going off the trail is to keep the structure in place.

Get them outside move their bodies, adventure and exploration. Keep it exciting, keep it real, be intentional about bringing them into a relationship with Christ.

"It's a sin to bore a kid with the gospel," Jim Rayburn, founder of Young Life.

Outdoor Training Conclusion

ASK POINTED QUESTIONS ON THE OUTDOOR SKILLS THEY LEARNED TODAY

Drive home a point, hand out literature or take-home materials, brochure from parks dept. or other.... A gallon plastic Ziplock bag with their name on it works great each month to collect their take home materials.

- Name top ten gear needed for “catching” fish.
- What are the local fish in your area?
- How does the weather effect fishing?
- Comment on each kid and something they did well.
- Give them handouts, printable instructions on shelters, boiling water, shelters or trapping.



Scripture Training & Heart Takeaway

Scripture: Jonah 1:17, And the Lord appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

TRAIL MAP #1: When Joannah disobeyed God he caused a lot of dangerous things to happen to those around him and he knew it. Finally he gave in and had the sailors throw him overboard. That's when the big fish swallowed him and then spit him back out - only to be confronted with God's grace and love, again. Joannah had heard from God exactly what He should do and because he disobeyed everyone was in danger. He was probably scared, mad, confused and just disobeying. Do you know that feeling?

A fishing guide can help you catch fish. They can teach you all about the types of fish and places they catch them. If you insist on using your own lure and throw it the opposite direction of where the guide tells you, that might not be so smart. (Give the boys an example of how God may speak to them, or a time He spoke to you and what happened good or bad). The confusion with trying to figure out if God was speaking to you or just you.

Satan will try to get us off course, use things to lure us into trouble. Trick you, or "LURE" you into something that can really hurt you and others. They might sound good or seem good but somewhere inside you know you are not supposed to do it, say it, look at it. That is God talking to you!

You are an amazing person, what keeps you from letting God love you? Your heavenly Father's love cannot be taken away. "Stand Firm," Ephesians 6:11-13 Get to know Him and what really is happening in the bible stories you have heard all your life.

TRAIL MAP #2

Drive home the points:

- Everything we do can affect others. Good or bad.
- The stories of the bible are real and there is always more to them than the fairy tales. God is using them to teach us.
- Everyone loves fishing – but is it really the fishing or is it catching? It is important to know how to catch fish and when someone teaches you fishing skills you get better. Like your KOZ leaders teaching how to live life, "Do Hard Things," and make a difference.



The Sit Spot and God

SIT SPOT Purpose:

- Pass out a blank index card and pen. Have them write one thing they learned today and something they need prayer for. Let them know the KOZ leaders will be carrying their cards and praying every day.

Let them know *It is a private prayer between your leaders and them, they don't have to put their name on the card.*

TO PONDER: Give the boys something to ponder, use the questions above, and ask them to go to a sit spot - let them stay while you prepare lunch (quietly without distracting the quiet moment) - (15-30 min.)

- **SEND LEADERS TO SIT SPOTS!** If a leader is not assigned a task have them also find a sit spot. It is good for the boys to see the adult leaders doing the same as they are asked to do. **QUIET TIME IS ESSENTIAL.**

LUNCH & KOZ LEADERSHIP TAG TRAINING

CALL BACK FOR LUNCH - While they are eating lunch – Review topics of the day. Chat with the boys. Enjoy time, food, fellowship.

This month your “Do Hard Things Challenge” is: Open the door for those you are with. Rush ahead and open the door to let whomever you are with in ahead of you. Open the car door for your mom. Hold the door for a lady or girl coming in behind you. You will make people very happy when you open the door for them. This is a great chance to be a gentleman and a habit that can make a difference your whole life.

WORK ON KOZ DOG TAGS Ask boys if they are working toward KOZ TAGS. Greenhorn, Coyote, etc. This is a good time to teach this material. Ask if any of the boys are new – **give them their KOZ Nation dog tag** (the first one)

GIVE A BOY HIS NAME IN KOZ We have found that giving boys a nickname is a huge tool for them. Giving a boy a “New Name” has been a game changer for many. A strong, fierce name is important. Jesus and His Father both gave new names. Ask prayerfully what name a boy should have. The leaders decide **NOT** the boys. It is an honor bestowed, even if funny.



As you wait for the parents to arrive:

- Tell the boys you love them. That they are important. That if they have not prayed to ask Christ into their hearts to come talk to a KOZ HTL (**ROMANS 10:9**).
- If a kid wants to be baptized, have them talk to you about it - you can do it somewhere really cool!

Perform a service project on site. Teach the boys to ALWAYS leave your area BETTER than it was when you got there.

Parents arrive. Greet them and tell them how good their kid did. – Tell the boys to invite a friend!

Hand out literature or take home materials.... A gallon plastic Zip lock bag with their name on it works great each month to collect their take home materials.

Stay, Read the Sit Spot Cards. Pray over the cards together. Divide them among the HTL's for the month.