



A Sisterhood of Anglers.

Bringing the Kids Fishing

Fishing time doesn't need to mean time away from your kiddos. The idea of bringing your child(ren) with you on fishing outings can seem daunting at first but if you are well-prepared, outfitted and organized, it'll be some of the best and most memorable time you'll spend with your little ones!

Bringing Baby:

If you think about it, gentle-flowing rivers on a warm spring day are what babies' dreams are made of... The sights and sounds of whooshing water, flutters and songs of nearby birds, the twinkling tree leaves in the breeze and of course the glimmer of a chrome steelhead's scales are all perfect stimuli for a young little mind!

Pick a light wading location with relatively easy to navigate terrain and that's not too far off the beaten path. You don't want to be dodging rouge tree limbs and brush constantly or walking on uneven, slick boulders in a fast current with a baby in tow.

Choosing the right carrier is not only critical for not only safety but for comfort as well. There are great options out there for both front carriers and backpack carriers just remember when considering your options you'll want to have a sunshade/rain cover in case of sudden weather changes and you'll also need room for your baby's essentials such as formula, diapers, wipes, etc. Our top picks go to Deuter and Osprey.

Bringing a Toddler:

Once your child becomes mobile it can be challenging to bring them anywhere let alone on a river. A great option when you want to fish for steelhead, trout and salmon is to bring your tot shore casting with you. Shore fishing along the beaches of Lake Superior is an effective way to catch fish while also providing a safer space for your kiddo to roam and explore, compared to the ledges and slick boulders that line the river banks. Always make sure children are wearing a life jacket anytime they're around water. Even if the water appears shallow and calm along the beach, the currents beneath are churning so life preservers are a must. Finally, load up on the snacks! If you forget snacks you might as well turn around and go back home because no fishing will get done with a hungry toddler around.

Bringing Older Children:

Getting kids outdoors helps them develop a love and appreciation for our natural resources. Fishing is a great way to get them active outside! It's typically easier to introduce them to fishing rivers for trout and salmon with a spinning rod/reel setup and bobber as it's a simple yet effective technique. Once they've gotten comfortable and confident using the spinning gear, have them try drifting mono on a fly rod/reel which is another deadly technique for steelhead. Over time, introduce fly casting and work toward fly fishing. The idea is to make these transitions gradually, avoiding too much frustration causing them to throw in the towel all together.

Fishing with your children can be a fantastic experience and provides an opportunity to create life long memories while instilling a respect and appreciation for the outdoors. Ensure safety by requiring kids to wear life jackets around lakes and rivers and never ever forget to bring plenty of snacks because that's the #1 reason outings with children get cut short!