

Boats and Bass

It's fun to fish from a dock or from the shore for largemouth bass—or any fish. But you can reach more fish if you have a boat!

You don't need a fancy boat. A small rowboat, kayak or canoe will work well to get you

to the fish in a pond or small lake. Some people have john boats—a flat-bottomed boat with a small outboard motor—and they work great! According to boating regulations, kids 11 years old and younger may not operate a boat with a motor greater than 25 horsepower, and kids 12 years old and over must have a Boating Safety Education Certificate before operating a boat with a motor that's greater than 25 horsepower. Anyone can operate a boat with a motor of 25 horsepower or less. To find approved boating education courses in your area, visit the Fish & Boat Commission's web site, www.fish.state.pa.us. Before you go, make sure you know how to operate your boat properly. Always have an adult go with you and always wear your life jacket—it's the law if you are 12 years old or younger!

