Fishing is a Great Hobby
Revised selection – original text by Wilson Hall, Mankato
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To Open Your Mind, 2005 Edition

Pre-reading
Questions:
• What do you know about fishing?
• What would you like to know about it?
Definitions:
• Hobby – an interest or activity that a person enjoys in his or her free time
• Soothe – to calm or comfort
• Bait – something used to attract and catch fish or other animals

Reading
Fishing is a great hobby that many people can enjoy. Folks of all ages and abilities can
learn to fish. It’s both relaxing and exciting, and it doesn’t cost much money.
Fishing is relaxing. It is relaxing to sit on the shore of the lake or on a river bank. You can
watch the ripples on the water and hear the soothing sounds of the waves. On a nice day, the
warmth of the sun and a gentle breeze off the water feels great! It’s relaxing to be outdoors near
the water.
Fishing is exciting. Some fish pull hard on the fishing line. They can put up quite a fight!
It is exciting to land a big fish. Sometimes you find a great spot where you hook many fish. As
soon as you drop your line in the water, you get a bite. It’s exciting to catch a lot of fish in one
spot.
Fishing is inexpensive. All you need is a fishing pole and some bait. If you can’t afford
bait, go outside at night and look for earthworms, or night crawlers.
Don’t forget to buy a fishing license. In Minnesota, all persons ages 16 and older who want
to fish need to have a license. It’s the law. If you are stopped by a water patrol officer, and you
don’t have a fishing license, you could be fined.
Understanding

1. Why is fishing a great hobby? __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________________

2. What does the word **inexpensive** mean? ________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________________

3. Who needs a fishing license? Why? ______________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________________

4. What kind of bait could be found in your yard? __________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________________

5. Why is fishing relaxing? (List at least two reasons.) ______________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________________

6. What does the word **fined** mean in this story? _________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________________

Writing

**Choice A:** Retell the story in your own words.

**Choice B:** Do you enjoy fishing? Why or why not?

**Choice C:** Write about an outdoor hobby you enjoy.

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Fishing is a Great Hobby – Level 3.5