Boating Safety

Key Messages

- Boat Sober. Alcohol consumption is a factor in almost 40% of boating-related fatalities.
- Get Carded! Get the Pleasure Craft Operator Card. The Competency of Operators of Pleasure Craft Regulations requires all Canadian operators of pleasure craft fitted with any type of motor and used for recreational purposes to carry proof of competency on board. The most common form of proof of competency is a Pleasure Craft Operator card obtained after passing an accredited boating safety test.

Instructor Notes

- Men are four times more likely to drown than women
- 80% of victims in boating deaths were found not wearing a lifejacket

Learning Activities

*Dry Learning Activity*

- Have the participant’s place items into the boat that they believe are necessary to take on the boat with them. Have them explain why they are putting each item into the boat as they place it in the boat. When they are done you can give them further suggestions of an additional item they should include or remove if they were unselected or selected.

To set up this station, you will need the following items

- A blow up boat (or something to resemble a boat)
- Different key items that should be present while on board a boat
  - Whistle
  - Flare (a picture)
  - Bailing bucket
  - Lifejacket
  - Etc.
- Additional items that can be included
  - Hydration (water)
  - Sunscreen
  - Sunglasses
  - Hat(s)
  - Etc.
- Items that should be left behind
  - Beach toys
  - Alcohol (if it is appropriate to show at you event – suggestion to just have a clip art picture to make it more kid friendly)