

KIDS DON'T FLOAT!



PFD Otter says, "Kids Otter always wear a lifejacket while playing in or near the water!!"

Give Them Something That Floats!
Lifejacket Loaner Station

*State and Federal Law requires youth under 13 to wear a lifejacket while boating.



Sponsored by:
U.S. Coast Guard
Alaska Office of Boating Safety & Patrol
Office of Boating Safety
P.O. Box 1000
Juneau, Alaska 99801



Native People of

People have lived along
4,000 years. The Native
are descendants of those
people from other places.
Native culture. Today, many
traditions of both Alaska and

Although Native People of the
more than 25 languages and
eight main groups.

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

An Alaskan Boating Safety Program

...YOU CAN DO IT TOO!

background

- **Began in Homer in 1996- statewide in 1997**
- **DHSS, USCG, AOBS, ASK**
- **Lifejacket loaner boards**
 - 466 boards around AK today
- **Educational lessons for schools**
 - 2 in-class lessons, 1 in-water lesson

10 Leading Causes of Fatal Injuries in Alaska by Age Group, 2001-2005



< 1 year old	1-4 years old	5-9 years old	10-14 years old	15-24 years old
suffocation 40	motor vehicle 9	drowning 7	motor vehicle 22	suicide 159
assault 10	pedestrian 8	motor vehicle 5	drowning 12	motor vehicle 104
drowning 3	drowning 8		assault 12	assault 51
				poisoning 43
Division of Public Health, Dept. of Health & Social Services, AK Bureau of Vital Statistics				drowning 35

KDF Success!

- 19 children have been saved by KDF loaner board lifejackets (confirmed)
- Almost 80,000 children reached today
- Over 190 schools visited
- Over 50 Alaskan communities reached
- In the 2002 *Alaska Boater Survey*, 18% of Alaskan boaters said they have used KDF lifejackets from a loaner board.
- In a 1997 PFD wear-rate study, the observed life jacket wear rate increased from 16% to 35% immediately following the installation of a loaner board.
- The 2001 PFD wear-rate study showed that wear rates of children between 0 and 17 years of age averaged 50% in areas without loaner boards but averaged 75% in areas with loaner boards.

Today, Alaska has approximately 105,000 children enrolled in 384 schools. We're halfway there!

(ak.localschooldirectory.com)





KDF goes international!

- Washington
- Montana
- Illinois
- California
- Texas
- Louisiana
- North Dakota
- Georgia
- Michigan
- New Hampshire
- Oregon
- Oklahoma
- Wisconsin
- Kansas
- Minnesota
- Colorado

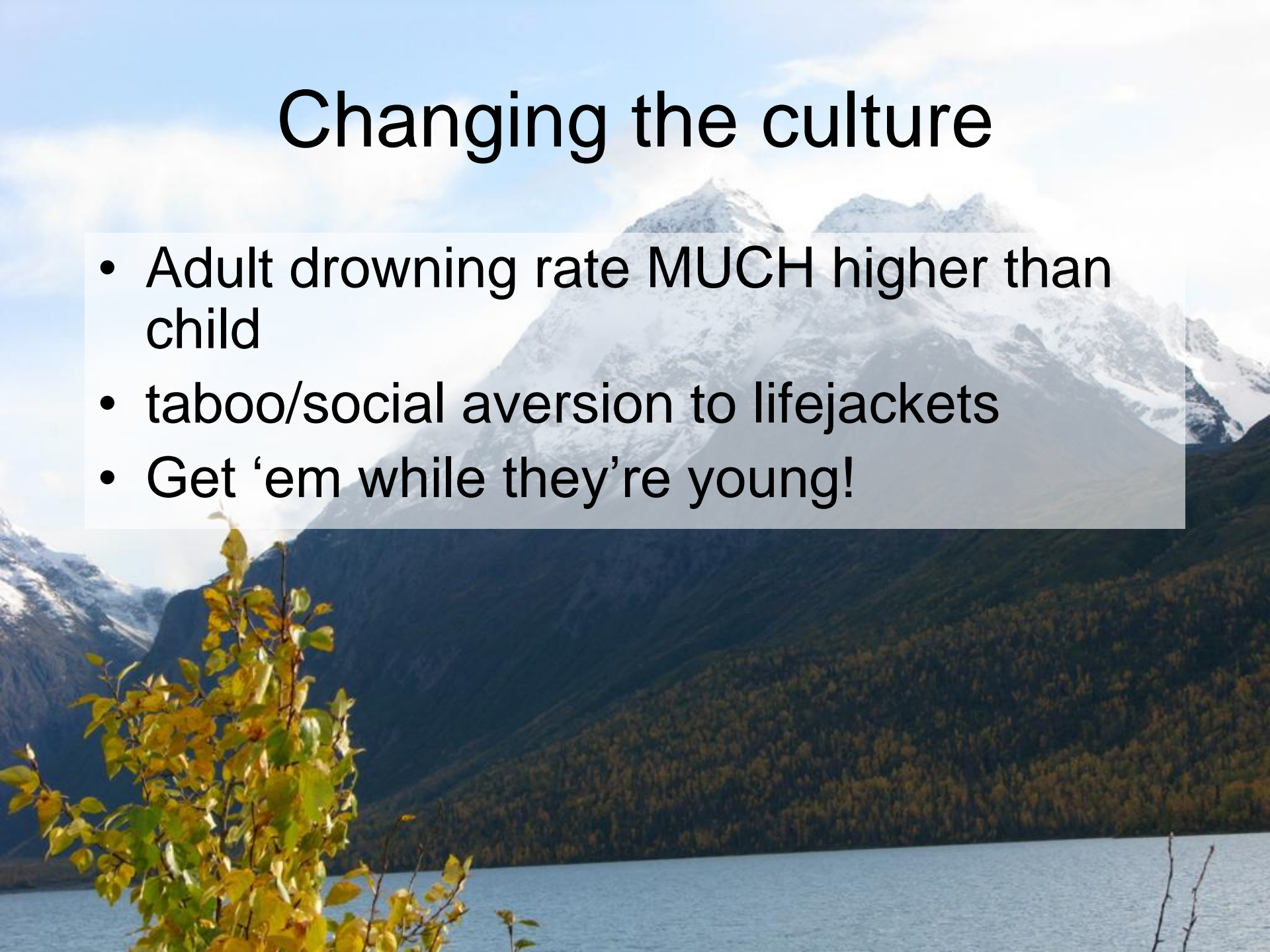
- CANADA!





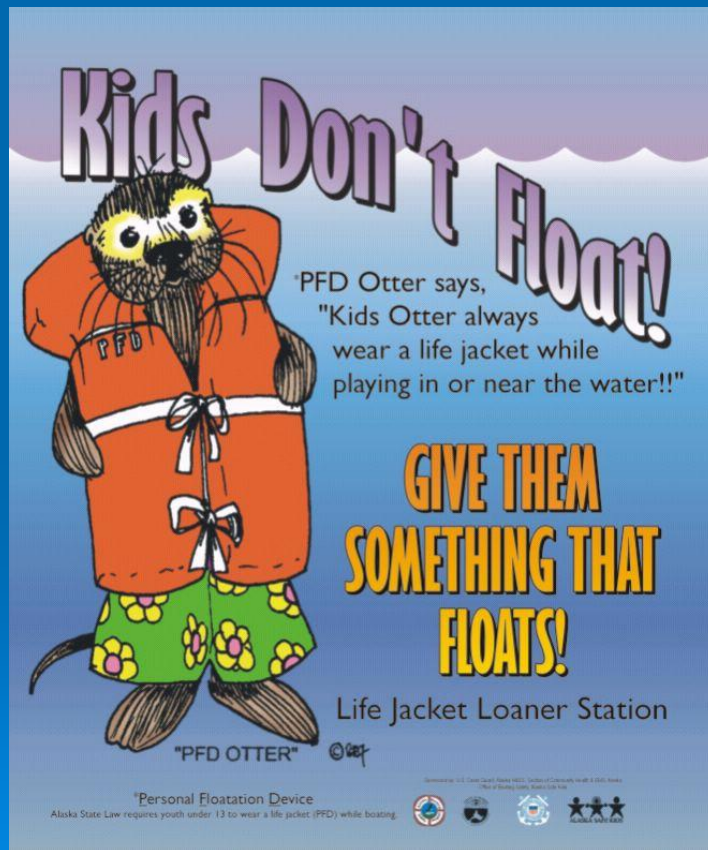
Changing the culture

- Adult drowning rate MUCH higher than child
- taboo/social aversion to lifejackets
- Get 'em while they're young!



Starting A KDF Program

- You are not alone, we are here to help!
- Instructors statewide
- Curriculum is on the web



get yourself out there!

- Call schools, principals, teachers, after-school programs, summer camps, library, museums, etc...
- Hang flyers
- Hand out information at conferences, meetings, school fairs, etc...
- Put postcards in teacher's school mailboxes
- Use your community contacts!

Educational Component

- 3 lessons, last being an in-water lesson
- 1st lesson taught most often
- Covers K-6 grades, can be adapted to older grades
- Typically taught in 1-hour blocks



Methods of Evaluation

- Instructor/class evaluations to all teachers
- 4th grade & higher receives a short quiz at the end of the program
 - 10 questions
 - Multiple choice
 - Basic safety knowledge



KDF PFD Loaner Program

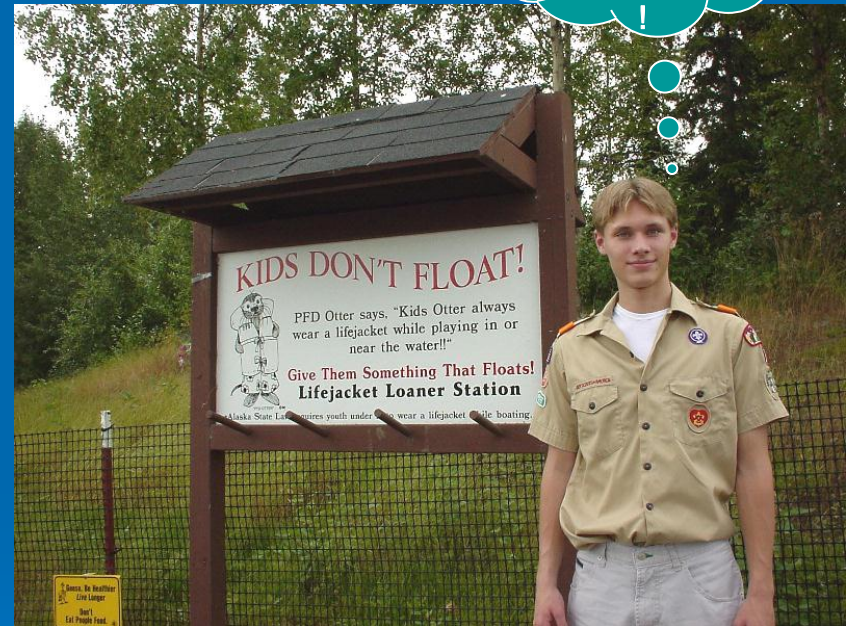
- Loaner Board Sponsors
- Loaner Boards at Harbors & Launch Ramps
- PFDs Provided by KDF Agencies or Local Groups
- Boaters Borrow PFDs and Return After Use
- 2001 PFD Wear Rate Study Showed Increased Wear Rate at Loaner Sites



KDF PFD Loaner Program

- Annual Community Survey & Feedback
- PFD Use 5-1500 Times Per Site (survey result)
- Little/No PFD Loss (some loss, some gain!)
- Very Positive Program Support

My KDF board is AWESOME !



KDF Peer Education Program



- Trained High School Students Teach Elementary School Students
- Volunteers Train High School Students
- Community Service or Health Class Credit
- Step-by-Step Training Program (easy to use!)

High School Training: How it Works

- Set Up Training With Local High School (students sign up)
- Hold 2-3 Hour Training (PFD Use, Activities)
- Students Develop Lesson Plans During Session
- Hold Subsequent Organizing Session (1 hour)
- Students Set Up Elementary Classes, Contact Teachers
- High School Students Schedule Sessions
- Each Group Teaches 3 Classes (30 mins.)
- Group Receives Evaluation



Focus of KDF Peer Program

- Teach Youth About Safety
- Positive Role Modeling By Teens
- Internalized Safety Message by Teens
- Reach All Types of Boaters
- Reduce Fatalities



KDF/Boating Safety Resources

- Kids Don't Float Program Component Packets (Loaner, Peer Education and School Program)
- Alaska Marine Safety Education Association (AMSEA) K-12 Curriculum: "Outdoor Adventures"
- Videos
 - The Test Files (Ohio DNR)
 - Cold, Wet, & Alive (Am. Canoe Assn)
 - It Could Have Been Prevented (AMSEA)
 - Public Service Announcements

The KDF Future

- KDF Loaner Boards at All Harbors/Lakes/Rivers
- Education in All Alaska Schools
- Involvement By All Alaska Communities
- Eliminate Drowning Fatalities



Guidelines for Presenting

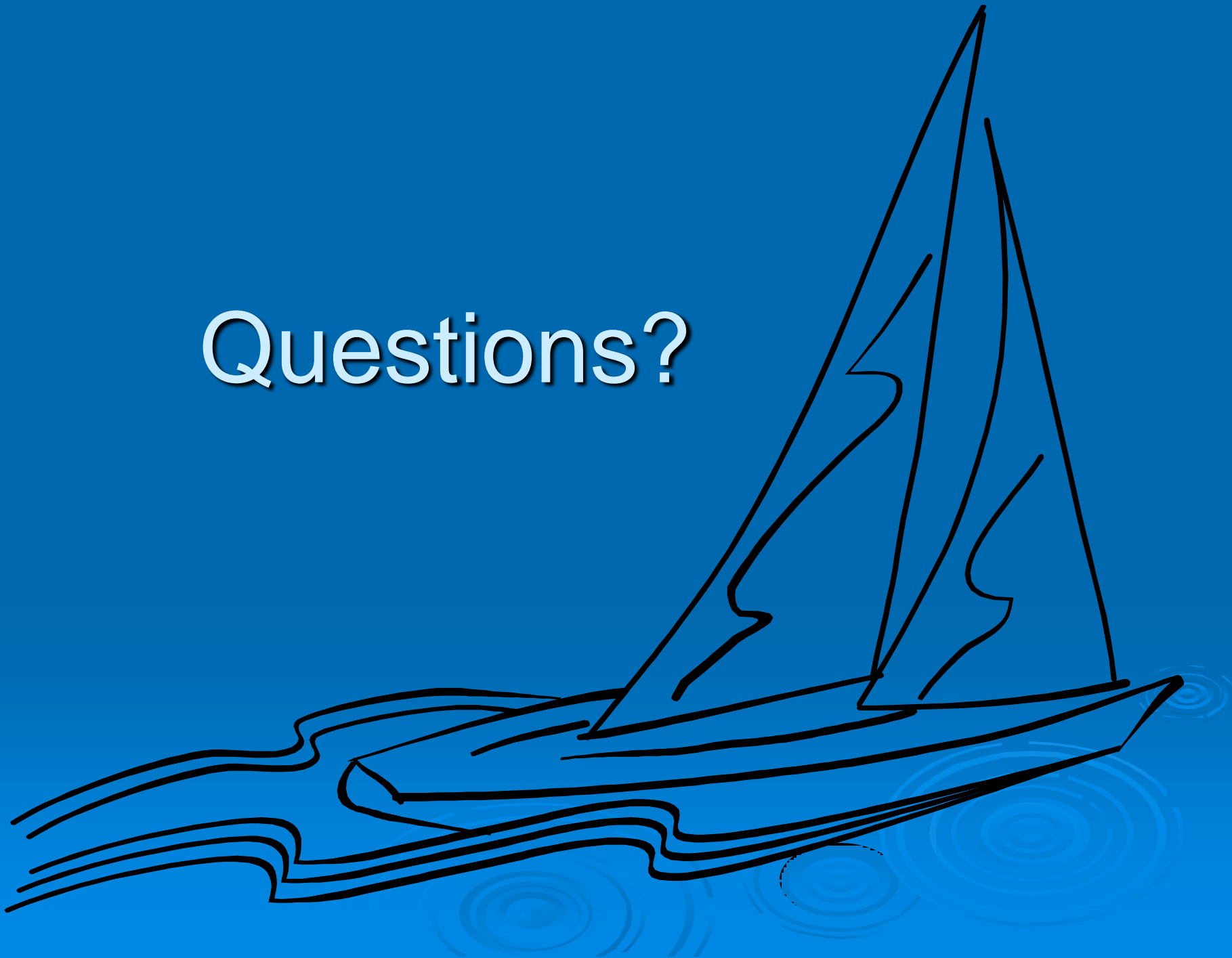
- Should be applicable to audience
 - Creating meaning
 - Know your audience
- Be prepared
- Avoid overload
- Also avoid wasting time

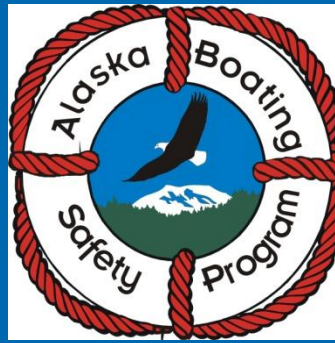


Preparing to Teach

- The key to confident and effective teaching is preparation
 - Know your subject
 - Be on time
 - Prepare for your environment
 - “set up for success”

Questions?

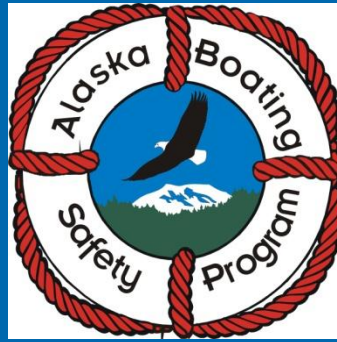




Boating Alaska The End



© Rita Huse



Office of Boating Safety

550 West Seventh Avenue, Suite 1380

Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Phone: 269-8704

joseph.mccullough@alaska.gov

megan.piersma@alaska.gov

www.alaskaboatingsafety.org

