Fund Finance Friday

Outside the Lines — These Girls Can Fish

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Outside the Lines



By Michael Mascia FFA Board Member

I just got back from a terrific vacation to the North Carolina coast and mountains, and my daughters continued a ridiculous run of good fishing. To start the summer, Victoria boated an insane 48-pound catfish on Lake Wylie in South Carolina. (I highly recommend Rodger Taylor of **Catfish ON! guide service**; he is great with kids.) While she was happy to reel, she refused to hold the fish for the picture. Then in May, she won the "Catch of the Day" award for a solid largemouth at a local family fishing tournament. And by then, she got super cocky. We went out to a local pond aiming for sunfish, and I got a really big catfish to take on my ultralight rod with 4lb test. I was holding the rod high and the fish was just screaming off drag during a long run. And Victoria got mad at me and yelled, "Dad, you aren't even reeling. You've got to fight. Fight like it's the last cookie in the house." Um. OK. So I tried harder. And we landed an ugly 10-pounder after about 20 minutes.

My 7-year-old, Kristina, was unimpressed with her sister's exploits and started asking me to take her fishing (note: it takes excellent parenting skills to get your kids to think that what you want to do is their choice). She immediately caught an 8-pound catfish on a single kernel of corn on her pink Little Pony rod. Then, to top it off, last week she boated a nearly 50-pound bonnet head shark, reeling it in virtually herself. These girls can fish!











