

## Honorable Mention

## Franklin Township Fishing Derby

By Anthony Riello

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What better thing to do on a beautiful spring day than to go fishing! One of the things I love about Franklin Township is the fishing derby. It's one of the great events that my town organizes. The fishing derby is held in the spring and is usually on a beautiful, sunny day. Participating in the fishing derby allows time for bonding with family members, friendly competition, and winning of prizes.

Although my dad is a really busy guy, either busy at work or working on something at our house, he takes time out of his busy schedule to go fishing with me. I love this time we spend together. My dad is a great fisherman. He's been fishing for many years. He has taught me great tricks, and he knows where all the good holes are. When I was young he taught me how to fish. At first I wasn't too great but over time I gradually got better. When I was around six years old, my dad and I participated in the fishing derby and have continued every year since. One year I even won the prize for catching the most fish. The prize I won was a tackle box, which I still use today.

Usually on the day of the competition I get a little nervous as my dad and I are driving to the event. I love to compete against my friends and win some prizes. It is very challenging to compete against kids and adults. There are loads of kids and parents fishing, and to come out on top and win it all, well, you have to be a good fisherman. We go fishing on a big pond and with all the people surrounding the pond sometimes it's hard to even get a seat. So if you go, it is best to try and arrive early.

Finally, wouldn't you want to compete and win cool prizes? There are many different prizes for many different categories, such as first fish caught, biggest fish, and most fish caught. The prizes you can win are a fishing pole, a tackle box and many more awesome prizes. Every year, the people who run the fishing derby put a massive fish in the pond. That fish is the biggest of all the fish in the water. If you catch that one, you win a huge prize! Someday I hope to win and find out what that big prize is!

All in all, the town puts together a great fishing program. I would definitely recommend you go and try it out. Come with your family, have fun, win prizes, and finally, catch fish. Certainly, come to have fun!