**2024 Aztec Kindergarten Student Annual Fishing Day**

Since 2014 with the help of the New Mexico Department of Game & Fish, local sportsmen and women volunteers, local businesses and organizations, Ione Randleman, her family and other teachers at Lydia Rippey Elementary School have hosted an annual fishing day for the Aztec Kindergarten students. Since the inception of this event 10 years ago they have promoted the sport of fishing and its excitement with over 1,200 young people.

The students participate in aquatic based thematic units at school, attend a casting and general knowledge of fish pre-clinic prior to the fishing day. On the day of fishing the students will rotate through various activities of casting practice using a backyard bass game, a nice riverwalk to enjoy aquatic fauna and wildlife, other fishing related activities depending upon the weather and the availability of resources and volunteers and of course FISHING!

This year the fishing day will be on two different days to accommodate the number of students expected to participate this year, 200 students. The Aztec Kindergarten Annual Fishing Days will occur on Thursday May 2nd and Friday May 3rd, 2024.

At the end of the day, they traditionally present each kindergarten student that attends the fishing day with his/her own fishing pole and tackle starter kit to get them excited and promote their own future outdoor adventures. Ione Randleman, her family, Lydia Rippey Elementary School and the other teachers have asked the Dallas Safari Club New Mexico to team up with them to help make this possible.

The type of fishing poles/tackle combos are ordered through Zebco which gives them 50% off each of the combo sets at approximately $15 apiece after shipping because it is an educational event. A great deal!

Thanks to our awesome members that have supported DSC New Mexico either through the Gala or one of our Giveaways, we are happy to announce that we are able to support the Aztec Kindergarten Fishing Day with $3,000 to cover most of if not all the fishing pole/tackle combo sets for the Aztec Kindergarten students!

We have no doubt it will be a spectacular day for the students and everyone involved! But they always need Volunteers to help in order to make this a successful event. The more Volunteers the better!

If you live in the Aztec area or would like to make the drive to help out all the kindergarten teachers and help to teach a young man or young woman all about the excitement of fishing and see their smiles when they catch a fish, please email us with your information so we can contact you and get you in contact with Mrs. Randleman.

DSCNM is planning to support Aztec Kindergarten Fishing Day for as long as it stays around.

Thanks for your support!!!

dscnewmexico@gmail.com