

Waterwise Kayak Information

There are hundreds of different kinds of Kayaks available, but they all fall into one of two categories:

Sit on Design

These are constructed of a double layer in a variety of shapes, with an air pocket between the layers. The air pocket is the buoyancy, so it will float, right or wrong way up - so long as the bung is correctly fitted. You just have to worry about not losing the paddle.

Sit in design

These are constructed with a single layer in a variety of shapes, to float on top of the water. They have varying amounts of polystyrene, at the ends or closed compartments to help them float, but the cockpit area remains vulnerable to be filled with water, from waves, wakes, or capsizing. Not a good idea to go out alone, unless you are experienced, have the right equipment, like a skirt, and know how to do an eskimo roll, or self rescue, etc.

Never tow a person in a sit in kayak, if it capsizes the person is unable to get out.

Also

Never let two children paddle together in the same cockpit, the person in front will have their legs inside the hull, with the feet of the person behind, wedging them in. So if it capsizes they are stuck.

Waterwise Currently own;

12 Sprites, sit in kayaks, with a small section of polystyrene at the tips, these can be used for adults and children. 10 are stowed in the wetsuit locker, each with their paddle tucked inside cockpit, and 2 in locker round the other side, Paddles for these are on the shelf above them.

8 Firefly's, these are small sit on kayaks, perfect for the children. All stowed round the other side with all their paddles on the shelf.

2 Adult size sit on Kayaks, round the other side with their paddles on the shelf

2 Doubles sit on kayaks, 1 stowed under the wetsuits, and other stowed under the sails in first locker.

Their 4 paddles are on a rack above the small wetsuits, These paddles are different because they all have one paddle yellow and other purple. (Child more likely to understand "yellow paddle first" than "right hand first.")

On the right hand side of the wetsuit locker are;

Kayak Instructor Tow Belts, for the Kayak Instructor to wear, so they can tow a child if need be.

Kayak Instructor Buoyancy Vests with a tow line attached.

6 clip on back rests, 2 for each of the double sit on kayaks and 2 for the single sit on kayaks, please wash and return after use.

Ratios

Same as for optimists first 4 children on the water : 1x PB with WW Instructor and one adult.

But if you add 1x qualified Kayak instructor in a Kayak, you can also add 4 children in Kayaks.

Each additional qualified Kayak Instructor in a Kayak, you can add 4 Children in Kayaks.

Towing instructions with a PB, are in a separate Brief.