







INSTRUCTOR GUIDE

LESSON 10: BOWHUNTING TIPS & TACTICS

V. 2/2018

Bowhunter Education 2017 Standards – Sections 1 & 6 Objectives 3, 36, 37, & 39

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| <u>Instructor Notes</u>  | <p>This lesson introduces the students to the fundamental knowledge and skills needed to become a successful bowhunter. This lesson corresponds with Chapter 1 (pgs. 6-9) and Chapter 6 (pgs. 43, 44, 50, & 51) in the Today's Bowhunter student manual. Teach this lesson to the entire class.</p> <p>Teaching Methods Used In This Lesson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lecture• Discussion |
| <u>Time Suggested</u>  | 20 Minutes |
| <u>Materials Required</u>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Audio Visual equipment (screen and projector)• Laptop with PowerPoint software• PowerPoint file: Lesson 10 – Bowhunting Tips & Tactics |
| <u>Vocabulary Builder</u>  | <div><p>Note: Do not read the vocabulary to the students. These are terms commonly used during this lesson, and the definitions are for instructor reference only.</p></div> |

Decoy – A bird, mammal, or imitation of one used by hunters to attract other birds or mammals.

Downwind – Being in a position where the wind blows from an object toward you.




Glassing – To use magnifying optics from a hill or vantage point to identify the whereabouts of target animals.

Stalking – To pursue, approach or creep up on stealthily.

Still hunting – To hunt very slowly and quietly making sure to stop moving every few yards to increase the chance that you spot game prior to game spotting you.

Upwind – Being in a position where the wind blows from you toward an object.

LESSON PLAN

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| <p><u>PART A:</u></p> <p><u>Focus Activity</u></p>  <p>1 minute</p> | <p>The purpose of the focus activity is to get everyone's attention focused on the lesson. Ask the students, "how many of you know what type of hunting style you will use when you go afield?"</p> |
| <p><u>PART B:</u></p> <p><u>Objectives</u></p>  <p>1 minute</p> | <p>State the learning objective to the students. "At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • describe why people want to bow hunt; • define hunting the wind; • describe at least three methods of bow hunting; • and list two decoying techniques that raise safety concerns for a hunter when hunting with or near decoys." |
| <p><u>PART C:</u></p> <p><u>Teaching Method</u></p>  <p>16 minutes</p> | <p>Ask: "what would be one disadvantage to using a bow versus a firearm?" Discuss the following topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 🖱️ Slide #3 - Ask: "what are some of the reasons why someone would want to bow hunt?" Discuss these motivations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Added challenge (e.g. getting closer to game; movement of drawing) • Extended seasons (e.g. early archery-only season) • Getting outdoors at different times of the year • Gaining access to more areas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ properties only open to bowhunting (e.g. state park) ○ areas with discharge restrictions (e.g. properties; roads) |

- bowhunting more accepted by landowners
- Comradery with family and friends

2. 🖱 Slide #4 - Discuss the most common hunting methods for bowhunters:


- Spot and stalk
 - identify an animal at a distance
 - sneak closely without being noticed
- 🖱 Slide #5 - Still hunting
 - slipping through the woods quietly
 - move slow enough to observe game before they observe you
- 🖱 Slide #6 - Elevated stands
 - treestands and/or box blinds
- 🖱 Slide #7 - Ground blinds
 - commercial blinds (pop-up blinds)
 - brush blinds



3. 🖱 Slide #8 - Discuss the importance of practicing with the equipment that will be used while hunting:

- Practice shooting from a treestand
- Practice shooting from a seated position
- Participate in 3D archery shoots
- Practice shooting with your hunting clothes on

4. 🖱 Slide #9 - Ask: “what importance does wind play while hunting?” Discuss the importance of trying to stay downwind of game or areas where game is expected.

- Keeping the wind in a direction that does not blow towards game, or the direction the hunter is traveling, is essential to remaining undetected
- Prevailing wind
 - knowing what direction the wind most commonly comes from helps a hunter identify where to place stands/blinds

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 🖱️ Slide #10 - Thermals affect wind patterns <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ daytime heat will cause air to rise and thus the wind will move uphill ◦ air cools in the evening or waning daylight thus the wind will move downhill • 🖱️ Slide #11 - Methods of wind detection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ windcheck powder ◦ natural plant tinder (e.g. milkweed) ◦ ribbons <p>5. 🖱️ Slide #12 - Discuss the advantages and potential hazards of using decoys while hunting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advantages <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ calm the animal ◦ bring animal closer ◦ give animal something to focus on • Hazards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ attaching decoy to themselves or using it to conceal themselves while sneaking up on game could create a situation where a hunter may mistake the decoy for a live animal ◦ carrying decoys without some type of safety bag or hunter orange covering could create a situation where a hunter may mistake the decoy for a live animal |
| <p><u>PART D:</u></p> <p><u>Student Summary</u></p> <p></p> <p>2 minutes</p> | <p>Ask students to recall the important topics that were covered in the lesson. It is important for students to be able to verbalize these points. Use questioning strategies to flesh out answers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What direction will wind generally travel when the air is warming in the morning? |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What advantage does a hunter gain by being downwind of an animal? • What is the best way to carry a decoy into the woods? • What is the most common hunting style used in open terrain? <p>END OF LESSON</p> |
| <p><u>Addendum</u> <u>A</u></p> <p>i</p> | <p>FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is any particular method better than the other? <i>This answer is primarily personal preference. Discuss the pros and cons of each method so that the students can determine which method is right for them.</i> |
| <p><u>Addendum</u> <u>B</u></p> <p>i</p> | <p>POWER POINT SLIDES FOR LESSON 10</p> <p>Slide #1</p> <div data-bbox="698 1264 954 1554">  <p>MASSWILDLIFE</p> </div> <div data-bbox="401 1591 1258 1856" data-label="Image">  </div> |

Slide #2

At the end of this lesson you will be able to:

- describe why people want to bow hunting
- define hunting the wind
- describe at least three methods of bow hunting
- and list two decoying techniques that raise safety concerns for a hunter when hunting with or near decoys

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Slide #3

What are some of the disadvantages of using archery gear versus a firearm?

What are some of the reasons why someone would want to bow hunt?

- Added challenge
- Extended seasons
- Getting outdoors at different times of the year
- Gaining access to more area
 - properties only open to bowhunting (e.g. state park)
 - areas with discharge restrictions
 - Bowhunting is often more accepted by landowners



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Slide #4

Common Bow Hunting Methods

Spot and Stalk

- identify an animal at a distance
- attempt to sneak within your effective range without being noticed



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Slide #5

Still Hunting

- Slipping through the terrain quietly
- Moving slow enough to observe game before they observe you



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Slide #6

Elevated Stands

Treestands



Box Blinds



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Slide #7

Ground Blinds

Commercial Blinds
(pop-up blinds)



Brush Blinds/Natural Blinds



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Slide #8

Why is it important to practice with the equipment you will be using?

- Practice shooting from a treestand
- Practice shooting from a seated position
- Practice in 3D archery shoots
- Practice shooting with your hunting clothes on



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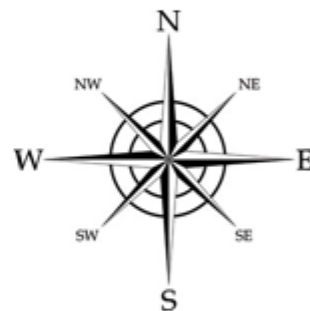
Slide #9

WIND

What importance does the wind play while hunting?

Prevailing Winds

- Knowing what direction the wind most commonly comes from helps a hunter identify where to place stands/blinds in advance of the hunt
- The prevailing winds in the Northeastern United States is West - Southwest



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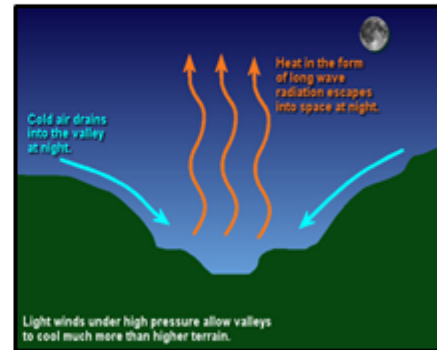
Slide #10

Thermal Winds

Thermals are winds created by the heating and cooling of air temperature

As air temperature starts to increase, the heat will cause the air to rise thus the wind will move uphill

Air cools in the evening or waning daylight thus the wind will move downhill



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Slide #11

Wind Detection Methods

Windcheck Powder



Natural plant tinder



Ribbon



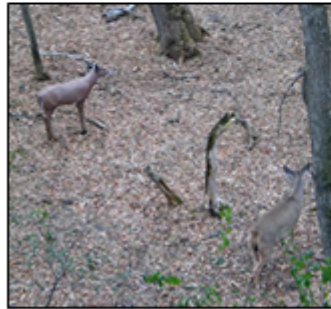
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Slide #12

Decoys

Advantages

- Calm the animal
- Bring animals closer
- Give animal something to focus on



Hazards

- Mistaken for live animals by other hunters
- Never attach a decoy to your person or use a decoy to conceal yourself



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Slide #13

Questions???

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