

PARACHUTES DIY, ASAP, SVP!!

Our senior groups will be using parachutes extensively, both for technical development and strength/power work. If you do not already have one, you need one. You can find them easily on amazon if you search for “swimming parachutes” or “swimming resistance parachutes”, but I do not like the ones that are most readily available. I think the best approach is to BUILD YOUR OWN, as follows. You need:

1. ***Drift chute, drift sock, or sea anchor***. These are built for kayaks and small fishing boats, and they are very durable (the big problem with the popular swimming parachutes is that they fall apart almost immediately). Get the smallest one possible. Also, some come with a 30 foot line and small buoy; you need a line/rope (see desideratum #2) and the buoy helps keep the chute near the surface, which is good; you do not need 30 feet of line, but you can easily cut it to the right length. These chutes are available on Amazon for about \$17 to \$30, depending on the brand and on deals. I have attached the amazon ‘headline’ for several that I found from a quick search.
2. You will also need to have a ***rope of about 6 or 7 feet in length***, made of a material that can handle being in water for long periods, to connect the chute to the belt around your waist. Purchase wherever you buy your climbing ropes, etc.
3. And you will need to have a ***nylon belt*** to attach to the rope and drift chute. This should cost no more than a few dollars at a discount store.

I recommend doing this as soon as possible. When we have a critical mass of kids with chutes, we can start doing very valuable work with them.

Note that one alternative I have seen to using the drift sock is to use instead a loofa or something like it; the other two components are the same. However, these do not provide much resistance at all and for that reason are not preferred.

Some of the many drift socks available on the amazon website:

MOOCY Drift Sock with Harness Buoy,Ocean Anglers Fishing Drogue Sea Anchor for Boat/Kayak/Pontoon

4.54.5 out of 5 stars
(158)

Price, product page [\\$24.99](#)

MOOCY Sea Anchor Drift Sock,24"/32"/42" Trolling Parachute Drift Anchor,Fabric Boat Anchor for Marine Boat/Yacht/Jet Ski/Inflatable/Power Boat/Sail Boat

4.34.3 out of 5 stars
(37)

Price, product page\$18.95

Sea Anchor Drift Sock,20"/28"/36"/44" /52" Trolling Parachute Drift Anchor with Dump Line for Marine Boat/Yacht/Jet Ski/Inflatable/Power Boat/Sail Boat

4.34.3 out of 5 stars
(111)

Price, product page\$18.99

Drift Sock Sea Anchor Drogue with 30ft Kayak Tow Rope Line Buoy Ball Float Leash Sea Brake System for Marine Boat/Yacht/Jet Ski/Inflatable/Power Boat/Sail Boat

4.44.4 out of 5 stars
(300)

Price, product page\$23.99

Savvycraft Sea Anchor Drogue| Heavy Duty Drift Control Drift Sock for Fishing Boat, Kayak, Canoe, Jet Ski, Inflatable Boat, Sailboat, Pontoon | Tough PVC Rip-Stop Parachute Anchor

5.05.0 out of 5 stars
(1)

Price, product page\$29.99

MOOCY Drift Sock with Dump Line,Harness and Buoy Sea Anchor Kit for Fishing Boat/Kayak/Pontoon

4.44.4 out of 5 stars
(314)

50+ bought in past month

Price, product page\$27.95

Drift Sock, Ocean Anglers Fishing Drogue for Boat/Kayak/Pontoon (25in)

4.54.5 out of 5 stars

(171)

Price, product page [\\$22.99](#)