

STREAMWALK

Students take a guided streamwalk along the creek channel and see the fish ladder.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Gain basic information about instream and riparian habitat.
- Employ sight, smell, sound, and touch to gain information.
- Appreciate how plants, animals, runoff, and people affect life in and near a creek.
- Understand what a fish ladder does and how the fish use it.
- Cultivate an interest in learning more.

WHAT TO DO

Contact us to arrange for this activity in the lower creek (access is through private property). We will lead the activity.

OPTIONS

- Use this streamwalk as the first of multiple creek-related activities during the same field trip (such as task cards or "Let's Explore" kits).
- Pair this streamwalk with an introduction to beach and nearshore habitat across the street at Cove Park or at nearby Lincoln Park.
- Challenge students to apply math, language, or other skills as part of this activity.
- Use this activity to stimulate students to think about what they would like to learn more about on a subsequent field trip or back in the classroom.

FIELD TRIP SUPPORT

- A "passport" to introduce 2nd, 3rd, or 4th-grade students to their destination at www.faultleroy.net/creek/learningresources. You might string each passport with yarn to use as a student nametag for the field trip. We stamp each student's passport at the conclusion of the field trip.
- Handout of plants common to riparian habitat. Copy from "Link by Link - Creek" at www.faultleroy.net/creek/linkbylinkmaterials.
- A map of the immediate watershed showing creek tributaries and main channel at www.faultleroy.net/watershed.
- A diagram of the residential site you will be visiting at www.faultleroy.net/creek/lowercreekdiagram.
- "Tips and Tricks for Taking Kids Outside" at www.faultleroy.net/creek/tipsandtricks.

SPECIAL MENTION

Ordinary Seattle rain should not require postponing your visit. Heavy rain, however, may create swift, high water that's not safe for small children. In the event of a major rainstorm on your day, call early in the morning to strategize what to do.

Fencing, plants, and bridges help protect students along the natural creek channel and at the fish ladder (a canyon-like structure with steep sides and deep pools). Prepare your students to respect all barriers and use bridges to cross the creek.

THEMES

Biodiversity
Hydrology
Erosion
Native Plants
Stream Ecology

GRADES

K - 8

TIME

20 minutes