

TASK CARDS

Working in teams, students search for habitat features along the creek, answer questions about what they find, and report to the class.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- See facets of stream habitat up close and learn more about them.
- Gain exploration and reporting skills.
- Test current knowledge about habitat features.
- Work as a team to complete a task.
- Cultivate an interest in learning more.

THEMES

Biodiversity
Hydrology
Erosion
Native Plants
Stream Ecology

GRADES

K - 5

TIME

20 minutes

WHAT TO DO

1) Contact us to arrange for this activity in the lower creek (access is through private property). We will provide the cards, direct the activity, and facilitate team reporting.

2) Tell us which type of task card you want to use:

Picture cards have a drawing on the front to help pre-readers or students who don't read English understand the task. An adult or older student will need to accompany each team to read the questions on the back of these cards.

Word cards have text only. Adult team members are optional with these cards.

We have several decks of each type of task card so that teams can search for the same things simultaneously, in any order.

OPTIONS

- Begin your field trip with a brief streamwalk to acquaint students with where they are, then follow with this activity to complete the session.
- Use this activity as your students' first hands-on exposure to the creek, then follow with focused exploration (such as our "Let's Explore" kits).
- Use task cards to occupy students who are waiting to release salmon in the lower creek or who have already released.
- 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.

SUPPORT FOR YOUR FIELD TRIP

- On-site leadership for this activity.
- A diagram of the residential site you will be visiting at www.fauntleroy.net/creek/lowercreekdiagram.
- "Tips and Tricks for Taking Kids Outside" at www.fauntleroy.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.