

Draw something that you want to remember about the pond or this part of the park.

THE MARKER

**MOVING WATER - MOSSY
GROUND - HOPPING FROGS**

and the “bowl” shape of this stone remind everyone who sees it of the abundant life that ponds support.

The buzzing “**bugs**” are examples of the many species that depend on this habitat.

The **alevin petroglyph** emphasizes the importance of healthy freshwater habitat to growing salmon and ties this site to other links in the chain of water-based habitats.

Overall, design and petroglyph detail by Tom Jay



POND STEWARDSHIP

A pond habitat is easily upset by natural changes such as drought (which no one can do much about) and by human-caused changes such as water pollution (which we can *all* do something about). Here are ways you can help protect this pond and the life that depends on it:

- ✓ Stay out of the water.
- ✓ Keep your dog out of the water.
- ✓ Bag pet waste and dispose of it in a trash can.
- ✓ Do not kick dirt into the water.
- ✓ Do not throw anything into the water.
- ✓ Leave the plants around the pond alone.
- ✓ Volunteer when asked to help take care of the pond or the park.
- ✓ Teach others about the pond.

POND

HELPER'S GUIDE

GETTING THERE

Park on the south (uphill) side of S.W. Barton St. at the entrance to Fautleroy Park. By bus, take Metro 54 to the entrance, where the clues begin. To combine a visit to the pond with a stop at the wetland, use the large bridge as your reference point.

PREPARATIONS

1. Preview what you will be doing on this field trip, go over the "Explorer's Guide," and answer any questions.
2. Provide adults with these supplies for each child assigned to them:
 - a cover-weight copy of the "Explorer's Guide" for this site
 - a pencil
 - a copy of the rubbing page for this site
3. Bring **large crayons** to make rubbings of images on the marker.

SEASON AND SAFETY

Visit this site during fall, winter, or spring when the water level in the pond will be at its highest. Advise children to dress for the weather and wear comfortable walking shoes or boots. If it's raining or has rained recently, they might get muddy.

For safety and to help youngsters focus in a very stimulating setting, we suggest **one adult for every three children, kindergarten through second grades.**

APPROXIMATE TIME

Walk in: **20 minutes**

At the pond: **30 minutes**

Walk back to entrance: **15 minutes**

At this site, young "explorers" will

- learn what a pond is and is not.
- see the parts of a pond habitat.
- begin to understand the pond's role in riparian habitat.
- see what types of plants grow in and around a pond.
- learn how to help take care of ponds.

MAKING THE MOST OF THE FIELD TRIP

If you have a large group, divide into adult-led teams to help youngsters focus on the activities and encourage development of observation skills.

Within reason, let teams walk to and from the pond at their own pace to encourage observing. In the spring, look for pink salmonberry blossoms, the bright yellow capes of skunk cabbage, and other native flowers. In the fall, look for multi-colored salmonberries, red or evergreen (black) huckleberries, and other native seeds.

Read the instructions in the children's "Explorer's Guide" for identifying the parts of a pond, then the instructions for seeing and hearing things that live in and near the pond. Prompt children to apply logic to their selections and to look for evidence of animals that may not be present when you are at the pond. Encourage them to focus on drawing something that really interests them.

Other tips:

- Ask youngsters to watch and listen carefully in order to follow the clues you will be reading to them.
- Remind them to stay on the path so no one steps on plants by mistake.
- Point out that volunteers are helping city workers take care of the park – making trails usable in wet weather, improving drainage to keep dirty runoff out of the creek, pulling out invasive plants that kill trees and other good plants, and putting in native plants that provide food for wildlife.
- When you get to the pond, pause a moment for youngsters to observe the area undisturbed.