

THEME:	Creek Habitat and Salmon Enhancement
SCOPE & SEQUENCE UNIT:	Creek Orientation
OBJECTIVE:	See the creek for the first time, wonder
ACTIVITY 1:	Walk-about the creek/river

Notes:	Outside
Teacher Prep.:	Recruit a few parents to come along; this allows for the class to be arranged into small groups; parents can assist as recorders during the brainstorming of a wonder question; parents can also be introduced to the creek.
Time:	15 minutes in-class dialoguing on behaviour outside classroom and at creek; time dependent on proximity of creek to school, walking to creek; 20 minutes to wander & explore the creek, 10 minutes to brainstorm and record what students know about water and a wonder question; 45 minutes total plus travel time.

Skills:

- ◆ Critical and creative thinking
- ◆ Ecological literacy

Objectives:

- ◆ to orient to the creek for future activities and study
- ◆ to introduce the creek to the students and offer self-exploration
- ◆ to initiate a KWL (what we Know, What we Want to Learn, how we can Learn this) about water

Background Information:

The initial visit to the creek requires no prior knowledge by students. It is intended as a self-discovery for each student. There is no lesson plan. It's a "get to know" first encounter with the creek.

Materials:

Marker and flipchart page for ethics
 Clipboards, paper, pencils - for recorders
 Whistle, cell phone, first aid kit

Introductory Discussion:

Create a class dialogue around the best behaviour for walking to the creek, and the best ethic for fostering respect for the creek. Make a list of the student suggestions on flipchart paper to keep handy and to refer in future trips to the creek. It will likely be improved upon over time.

Reflection Discussion:

Use the final 10 minutes of the time at the creek to brainstorm, in small groups, with an adult as recorder. Students offer comments on what they know about water, and each student provides a question of something they wonder about water. Allow any wondering of water to be recorded, as long as the answer is not common knowledge among the students. It need not be expressly about the creek or river, but should have a connection to water.

Resources:

For a review of things to consider prior to taking your students out of the classroom and off the school yard, refer to:

Have a safe, fun and successful field trip with your students.

<http://k6educators.about.com/od/classroomorganization/a/fieldtrips.htm>

Also see WildBC's resource, Get Outdoors!

Section 1 has many tips for outdoor classroom preparation and precautions.

<http://wildbc.org/>