

THEME: Creek Habitat and Salmon Enhancement
SCOPE & SEQUENCE UNIT: Riparian Zone
OBJECTIVE: A creek needs a good riparian
ACTIVITY 2.: Rehabilitate the riparian zone

Notes:	Outside, hands-on (with indoor followup) (This activity can follow directly after activity 1 or be held on another day.)
Teacher Prep.:	Connect with a local conservation group who is involved with riparian rehabilitation, such as a local conservancy or salmon enhancement group, or a local government agency. This activity needs adult volunteers, either from agency or parent volunteers. This is another hands-on activity that physically connects the students to the creek ecosystem, and in this case, they can return in the future and see the results of their work.
Time:	30 minutes, plus travel time for planting; 15 minutes back in class with student page

Skills:

- ◆ Collaboration, teamwork, leadership
- ◆ Life and career planning

Objectives:

- ◆ To conduct service learning by planting riparian plants to rehabilitate the riparian zone.
- ◆ To practice team work
- ◆ To understand the importance of a healthy riparian zone

Background Information:

See Activity 1. Investigate the riparian zone.

Vocabulary:

See Activity 1. Investigate the riparian zone.

Materials:

Work gloves

Shovels

Work clothes

Native plants suitable for riparian zone (at least 1/student)

Container for watering plants

Copies of Student Page

Introductory Discussion:

Prior to heading out, refer back to the reflection dialogue of Activity 1 (this may have been a suggestion made) of ways to rehabilitate the disturbed riparian areas. Review the function of plants in the riparian zone (refer to Activity 1). Review outside behaviour with students, use and care of equipment, and carrying plants to creek.

Activity:

Show a demonstration of how to dig a hole for the plant (how deep and big, how to pile the soil by the side), how to get the plant out of its pot, and how to gently handle the plant and place it into the ground, how to place the soil around it, and how to finish the planting. All transplants should be watered as a final step. Explain any other guidelines for the activity.

Reflection Discussion:

In a circle formation, dialogue on students' efforts digging and planting in the riparian zone. Is rehabilitation of a natural ecosystem like the riparian zone something that is easily accomplished? What happened to the habitat that it needed to be rehabilitated? Will the plants need further care before they are growing easily in the wild? Can you think of any other habitats where there is active rehabilitation? Would you like to do more of this?

Back in class, have students complete the student page.

Student Page:

The Riparian Zone

Name: _____

Date: _____
(mm/dd/yyyy)

The Riparian Zone:

Benefits of a Natural, Undisturbed Riparian Zone:
(use bullets, list as many benefits as you can think of)