
Squamish Rivers & Estuary Teachers Guide



December 2009



Squamish Rivers & Estuary Teachers Guide

Grades K-7



Welcome to the Squamish Rivers & Estuary teachers guide for grade K-7 teachers and their students.



This package is intended to provide teachers and others educators with activities and resources to educate students about water, watersheds, and some of the natural resources of the Squamish River watershed. It is hoped that you will find activities and resources you can easily carry out with your students.



SQUAMISH RIVERS &
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Table of Contents

Introduction

- Acknowledgements
- Organization of Squamish Rivers & Estuary Teachers Guide
- Using this resource

Section One: Water Connects Earth Systems

- Make a Watershed Model
- River of Words
- The Water Cycle in Squamish
- Our Estuary
- Capture, Store, & Release*

Section Two: Water is Essential for Life to exist

- The Life Box*
- Estuary Plants and Animals
- Everybody Needs a Home*
- Water Address*
- House of Seasons*
- Water Plant Art*
- Estuary Food Web
- Are You Me?
- Riparian Field Trip
- Oh, the Cedar Tree
- Hooks and Ladders

Section Three: Water is a Natural Resource

- Squamish Streams around the Corner
- Sum of the Parts*
- Watershed Food Fest
- Stewardship BINGO
- Estuary Parts and Pieces
- The Changing Estuary
- Estuary Jugglers

Appendix

- References
- Fisheries Project Background Information
- Program Contact Information

*Activities marked with an asterisk can be found in Project WET curriculum and activity guide (1995)

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Squamish Rivers and Estuary Teachers Guides K-7 Organizational Chart



Guiding Principle	Key Concept	Key Words	Activity	Grade Level
Water connects earth systems	A watershed is the area of land that drains into a lake, stream, or other water body.	Watershed River, stream, estuary, wetland	Make a watershed model	K-7
			River of Words	K-7
			Capture, Store, & Release*	4-7
	The water cycle describes how water moves through its different states: liquid, gas, & solid – driven by the sun’s energy.	Water cycle Liquid Gas Solid Drinking water	The Water Cycle in Squamish	2-7
	The Squamish Estuary is where the Squamish River meets Howe Sound.	Estuary River Stream	Our Estuary	4-7
Water is essential for life to exist	River and estuary habitat is important for fish, wildlife and people.	Habitat Riparian Adaptation	The Life Box*	K-2
			Estuary Plants and Animals	4-7
			Everybody Needs a Home*	1-3
			Water Address*	2-4
			House of Seasons*	1-3
			Water Plant Art*	2-5
			Estuary Food Web	3-7
			Are You Me?	K-7
			Riparian Field Trip	2-7
			Oh, the Cedar Tree	K-7
Hooks and Ladders	3-7			
Water is a natural resource	Everyday actions make a difference in watershed and estuary health.	Decision-making Sustainability Pollution	Squamish Streams around the Corner	4-7
			Sum of the Parts*	4-7
			Watershed Food Fest	K-7
			Stewardship BINGO	K-4
	Water resource management means balancing the needs of both wildlife habitat and people.	Best Management Practices (BMP) Renewable Resource Non-Renewable Resource	Estuary Parts and Pieces	4-6
			The Changing Estuary	4-6
			Estuary Jugglers	3-7

*Activities marked with an asterisk can be found in Project WET curriculum and activity guide (1995)

Using this resource

The goal of the Squamish Rivers & Estuary School program is to support education activities to increase public understanding (including school children and their teachers) of the value of fisheries, impacts of development on fisheries, and the value of restoration of fish habitat.

Objectives:

Teachers will:

- Increase their knowledge about local river and estuary ecosystems and habitats;
- Increase their skills to lead science-based outdoor activities;
- Appreciate teaching activities that link community projects with their classroom.

Students will:

- Value fisheries stewardship projects have for healthy, sustainable fisheries resources and watersheds;
- Understand the program Key Concepts;
- Participate in fisheries stewardship activities in their community.

The lessons, activities, and resources are aimed at grades kindergarten to grade 7 in general but most are adaptable within that grade range. The organizational chart provides additional grade level information on specific activities. The background information is provided for teacher information so that you have additional depth of knowledge prior to teaching the lesson.