



# K-12 Environmental/STEAM Resources in the Skagit Watershed


- **Friend of the Forest (aka Friends of the ACFL)** offers students the opportunity to engage with the Anacortes Community Forest Lands (ACFL) both inside and outside of the classroom. They offer field trips in the ACFL or school programs for the classroom or school yard. They also host summer camps, after school programs and community hikes. More info at [www.friendsoftheacfl.org](http://www.friendsoftheacfl.org)
- **Glacier Peak Institute (GPI)** leads activities in the upper Skagit and Sauk Rivers. These include guided hikes, canoeing, rafting, trail building, art projects, fish management lessons, eDNA sampling and more.
- **Museum of Northwest Art (MoNA)** is free to visit in person seven days a week. They offer [free lesson plans](#) and an [Art Box Lending Library](#) of art supplies that educators can borrow for free for up to three weeks at a time. They also offer [MoNA Link](#), a two-year professional development program that offers multiple museum visits and standards-based integrated art lessons. Learn more about their programs here: <https://www.monamuseum.org/>.
- **North Cascades Institute (NCI)** offers Mountain School, a 3-day program for 5<sup>th</sup> graders. More info and resources posted at [ncascades.org/signup/schools/mountain-school](http://ncascades.org/signup/schools/mountain-school).
- **Pacific Education Institute (PEI)** offers free standards-aligned curriculum for grades 4-8, based on the book *Explore the Salish Sea A Nature Guide for Kids*, developed by the SeaDoc Society. Explore this and other resources for educators at [www.juniorseadoctors.com](http://www.juniorseadoctors.com)
- **Pacific Mammal Research (PacMam)** offers classroom presentations about marine mammals in the Salish Sea, which can be tailored to meet the specific needs of individual teachers. Also available are half-day field trips (grades 7-12) to collect data at their study site in Anacortes. This program is free, but transportation is not provided. Students must hike 10 minutes to/from the site.
- **Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve** offers half-day and full-day field trips for classes at any grade level. Their interpretive center includes saltwater aquaria, a touch tank, and interactive exhibits. Full-day program includes a field component at the beach.

## Contact:


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## Contacts:

- **Skagit Audubon Society** offers guided birdwatching field trips or class visits with non-living bird specimens. Also, anyone can check out kits for young birders that include a bird guide, binoculars, activities, and children's books from the public libraries in Burlington, Mount Vernon, Anacortes, La Conner, and Upper Skagit.
- **Skagit Conservation District** offers hands-on watershed/stormwater presentations for grades K-12, the Soil and Water Stewardship poster contest in the spring for grades K-12, the Envirothon Competition in the spring for grades 9-12, the Skagit Youth Conservation Tour for 5/6th grade in May, as well as a variety of videos and worksheets about the Skagit Watershed for a range of grade levels. More information can be found here: [www.skagitcd.org/youth-opportunities](http://www.skagitcd.org/youth-opportunities).
- **Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group (SFEG)** is offering their Salmon in the Classroom and Kids in Creeks programs. Funding for school busses is available. More info here: [www.skagitfisheries.org/classroom-education/](http://www.skagitfisheries.org/classroom-education/)
- **Skagit Land Trust** offers their land for educators to use as an outdoor classroom. They also have some resources for teachers, such as the Elk Education Trunk and are happy to work with teachers to meet their outdoor classroom needs. More info here: [www.skagitlandtrust.org/pages/youth.aspx](http://www.skagitlandtrust.org/pages/youth.aspx)
- **Skagit Public Utility District** offers a unique science and social studies program called [The Story of Drinking Water](#) — an exploration of water's role in our environment and society, emphasizing the importance of a safe and reliable water supply. The program includes a tour of Judy Reservoir, the water treatment plant, and a visit to a source water stream in the Cultus Mountain watershed. Students learn where their water comes from and how it's treated to make it safe to drink. Transportation reimbursement is available. Or, do their [virtual tour via Google Earth](#).
- **Skagit Watershed Council (SWC)** is offering their Drain Rangers program for 5-8<sup>th</sup> graders in the Fall and Spring. This program teaches about stormwater runoff by having students study how their school contributes to the problem, then propose a solution and test its effectiveness using models. They are also offering a luminary arts program in preparation for the Illuminight Winter Walk event in January 2023. This program is intended for 6<sup>th</sup> graders and teaches the salmon life cycle through making a luminary globe (which is like a papier-mâché lantern).
- **The Salish Sea School (TSSS)** offers marine science and conservation lessons for K-12th grade students. Field trips are shore-based or boat-based. These lessons span the entire marine ecosystem and include discussion of how students can help protect and restore marine life. They also have free [printable field guides](#).

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