

About This Curriculum...

The Seal Rock Marine Trail Curriculum, Grades 9-12 consists of five sections:

Introduction

Activities Before Visit to Campground

Activities at Campground

Activities After Visit to Campground

Appendix

Activities in the classroom before the field trip introduce concepts and develop the skills students will use at the site. Activities at the campground focus students' observations, enable them to collect data for later analysis, and raise stimulating questions. Activities back at school after the trip give students time to analyze their data, think about the results, and explore the issues that arose during the visit.

Each set of activities contains several lessons. Each lesson has narrative directions for students preceded by a "Teacher Background" section which contains: key concepts, background information, materials needed, teaching hints including items for which advanced planning is required, correlation with Washington State Essential Academic Learning Requirements in Science, and answer keys. Important vocabulary terms are listed and defined in the "Glossary" section of the Appendix. The words are also defined in the text, either directly or by context.

While each activity has been designed to stand alone, presented together they provide a coherent introduction to the wonders of Seal Rock Campground. The activities are designed to enhance reading and math skills, as well as investigation skills. Experiential in nature, the activities engage students in observation, equipment use, measurement, data collection, and analysis of complex information.

While the activities work "as is", use this curriculum in your own fashion: change the order, do all or some of the activities, integrate them into your present curriculum or devote a special unit of a week to a month to them. The choice is yours.

Most activities require few materials not readily available in your classroom or in variety and grocery stores. In a few cases students are asked to bring materials, such as plastic containers, from home. Where this is the case, the first paragraph of the "Teaching Hints" section reminds you to ask for these well in advance.

Skim the contents of the units to discover the organizational scheme. Please read the text and activities before you use them. The materials have all been prepared with ease of duplication in mind. Please feel free to duplicate any and all materials you need to effectively utilize this unit with your class.