

Salmon Story time – Indoor Lesson

Grade Kindergarten

Lesson Winter Indoor

Time 30 minutes; conducted in the classroom

Materials *From the Website:*

- Salmon Life Cycle Sheet

From the Portable:

- [Salmon Stream](#) book by Carol Reed-Jones
 - Salmon sock puppets (optional)
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Objective:

To introduce students to the “Salmon Lifecycle” and that they live in our watershed. This is unique to the Pacific Northwest and we must take care of our watershed so salmon can survive.

Lesson:

1. Introduce yourself to the class and briefly review what you did on the last watershed lesson and tour.
 2. *Ask the class: What did you learn about the watershed? What did you wear in the watershed? How do we act in the watershed?*
 3. Introduce the new lesson - Today we are going to learn about the salmon that live in the watershed. Specifically, we are going to learn about their lifecycle. Does anyone know what lifecycle means?
 4. Show the colored version of the Salmon Life Cycle Sheet. Talk about each stage.
 - a) Egg - lay on the gravel in a cold clear stream. Each salmon can lay up to 5000 eggs.
 - b) Alevin - born with a yolk sac attached for food in the early weeks, it slowly gets depleted as the alevin grow.
 - c) Fry – live in the stream for up to 1 year, eat insects, camouflaged for protection from predators
 - d) Adult – swim out to the ocean where they live for 3 – 4 years before returning to lay their eggs. Stop eating when they return and often begin to turn red.
 5. Read aloud the [Salmon Stream](#) book – point out each of the 4 stages of life of the salmon.
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6. Optional – show the sock puppets and have students name the stage of the puppet.
7. Inform students that in late March, they will be releasing salmon from our fish tank into the watershed streams along with the 3rd graders! Be sure to watch the salmon tank.

Note to watershed volunteers: the salmon release is coordinated by the Salmon Tank Program and does not require any formal involvement on your part. As a parent of a child in the classroom, you will be invited to attend the salmon release with your student.