



CONSERVANCY

Conservation in Action

Stewards IN TRAINING SCHOOL PROGRAM



Stewards in Training program in a nutshell:

- a one day field program where students connect with nature
- delivered by qualified coordinator(s) and volunteers (as many as 10 in a given field day)
- activity based learning designed for small groups of 6-8 children
- curriculum linked, environmental education
- Conservancy funded through grants and donations
- place-based learning situated in local provincial parks, nature reserves, and other protected properties

“To Love The Land Is To Care For The Land.”

“The kids absolutely loved their day spent with you and your volunteers. They were so proud of their field books and really felt like they learned a lot. The small student groups matched with knowledgeable volunteers leading the stations made the experience very informative, personable and very hands on...active learning at it's best!”

Teacher, Salt Spring Elementary

“I liked learning how the moonsnails sucks out the clams by making a hole in the clam's shell.”

Student, Grade 2, Salt Spring Elementary

“Now I am going to go outside on the weekends. I loved the marsh. I will always remember this magical place.”

Student, Grade 6/7, Salt Spring Island Middle School

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The Stewards In Training Program offers:

For the students:

- a connection to the natural world;
- hands-on activities and reflection
- learning in small groups

For the volunteers:

- a day in the field mentoring students
- learning from students, teachers and each other
- sharing in a sense of wonder

For the teachers:

- a fully organized and sponsored field day
- curriculum based on BC Ministry of Education
- a time to share outdoor learning with students

For the greater local and global community:

- development of informed citizens about the interconnectedness of life and our stewardship of nature.
- creation of community by linking students, volunteers and the natural world

A Personal Relationship with Nature

We believe people are moved to conserve what they know and love. That's why the Salt Spring Island Conservancy created the Stewards In Training Program. This program invites all students on Salt Spring Island from grades 1 - 8 (approximately 700 annually) to share a day in nature learning about the cultural and natural history of Salt Spring Island.

The goal of the Stewards In Training program is to encourage children to develop a personal relationship with nature. Volunteers help children develop a sense of wonder and curiosity about the natural world. This curiosity is expanded through playful, thoughtful, and introspective activities. In developing these connections, children cultivate a sense of personal ownership and stewardship responsibilities for the land.

Become a Volunteer:

Volunteers are critical to the operation of this program.

Our volunteers come from a world of varied experiences. They include grandmothers, biologists, artists, geologists, naturalists, retired and substitute teachers, parents, archaeologists, and Conservancy members.

Our volunteers share a common bond – they are passionate about the environment and sharing their time and knowledge with children.

If this is something you think you would enjoy, please contact the Salt Spring Island Conservancy. No previous experience required.

