



Columbia Springs strives to offer a unique setting and educational experiences that foster greater awareness of the natural world and inspire stewardship. Our education center is located on a one hundred acre nature park at the site of the historic Vancouver Trout Hatchery in Vancouver, WA. From special events to summer nature day camps, we offer a variety of educational programs for learners of all ages.

Columbia Springs is free and open to the public daily. Visitors can hike the nature trails, observe birds and other wildlife, and explore the working trout hatchery. **Learn more and watch videos for some of these activities at www.columbiasprings.org.**

**12208 SE Evergreen Hwy,
Vancouver, WA 98683**



Activity Booklet

Scientist Name:

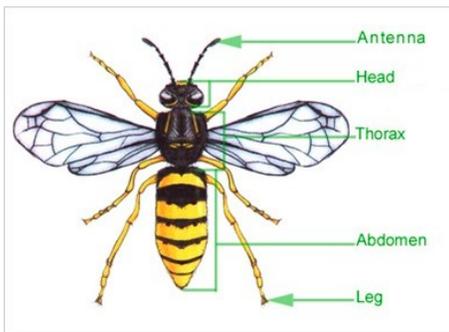
Locations and Dates of Observations:

"Bug-Out" Scavenger Hunt!

Let's take a closer look at one of the most successful living things on the planet -- **bugs!** When I say successful, I mean they're really good at surviving. For this activity we will be doing a scavenger hunt and you'll be using your careful and awesome observation (looking and noticing) skills to find bugs in their natural habitat.

But before you start hunting ...

Let's take a closer look at something that is in the bug family -- **an insect!**



Did you know that all insects have ...

A Head: it holds the antenna, compound eyes and the mouth

Antennae: it helps them feel and smell

A Thorax: the top body part that holds their six legs and sometimes wings

An Abdomen: the bottom body part with many functions, including breathing

An Exoskeleton: a protective layer on the outside of an insect, like a suit of armor

Which body parts do you think insects use to ...

Move around?	Protect themselves?	Seek and food or a

Let's get started on our scavenger hunt! You will be looking for insects *and* for all creatures in the bug family, along with some things they need to survive. Find somewhere you think bugs live (a park, a trail, your backyard, etc.) and start hunting. **Bug Finding Tip:** Walk slowly, look closely and peek under rocks and logs (just make sure to put them back when you're done). Have fun!

Plant Directory

Here are six species commonly found in the Pacific Northwest.

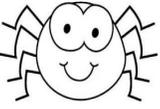
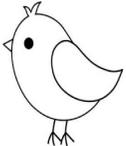
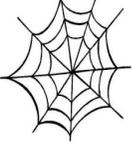
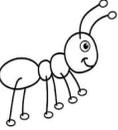
Do you know which are native? Can you find them all and make some observations about what you see, smell and feel? Use this guide to explore a new location and identify some of the species there!

Name	Image	Fun Fact	Native?	Identification
Bigleaf Maple	A black and white line drawing of a Bigleaf Maple tree, showing its characteristic large, palmately lobed leaves and a dense canopy.	The sap can be boiled down to make maple syrup.	<i>Native to...</i> North American west coast from Alaska to California	Sometimes leaves are bigger than your hand! "Helicopter seeds"
English Holly	A black and white line drawing of an English Holly shrub, showing its glossy, dark leaves and clusters of small flowers.	Important food source for birds! However, English Holly is poisonous to people.	<i>Native to...</i> The British Isles and central Europe	Can be a small shrub or a tree Bright red berries Careful it's sharp!
Himalayan Blackberry	A black and white line drawing of a Himalayan Blackberry leaf, showing its three-lobed shape and serrated edges.	One of the most commonly harvested blackberries!	<i>Native to...</i> Europe and Asia	One leaf has 3-5 leaflets Thorns! Pink/white flowers
Irish/ English Ivy	A black and white line drawing of an Ivy branch, showing its characteristic lobed leaves and climbing habit.	English Ivy can easily grow over 100 feet long.	<i>Native to...</i> Parts of Europe such as, Ireland and Scandinavia	Climbing vine Has curly roots on the stem that help it climb
Licorice Fern	A black and white line drawing of a Licorice Fern, showing its long, narrow, feathery fronds.	The only native fern that grows on other plants!	<i>Native to...</i> Western North America	Look up! It likes to grow on trees. Under the fern are sori. These release spores.
Western Red Cedar	A black and white line drawing of a Western Red Cedar branch, showing its scale-like leaves and woody structure.	The bark is used by Native Americans to make baskets and canoes.	<i>Native to...</i> The North American Pacific Coast	The leaves are scale-like. They're very different from the leaves on Bigleaf Maples.

Nature Bingo!

Columbia Springs welcomes kids of all ages to enjoy this picture bingo board. Whenever and wherever you find yourself outside, bring this board and cross off the items as you find them. Will you get five in a row?



B	I	N	G	O
				
				
				
				
				

Meet a Tree

Meet a tree while blindfolded and see if you can find that same tree once you have your sight back! All you need for this activity is a partner, a blindfold and a woody area with a good amount of trees.

Here's how to do it ...

1. Find a partner to team up with
2. Decide who will be "the guider" and who will be blindfolded
3. The guider will lead the blindfolded around through the trees in an unrecognizable pattern. Be careful, you want to disorient them but still be a compassionate and gentle leader. Remember, it will be your turn next!
4. After successfully disorienting the blindfolded person, lead them to a single tree.
5. The blindfolded person then gets to know the tree as well as they can without seeing it. Don't forget to hug it high and low, smell it, listen for birds, touch it, and anything else that might help remember this tree. There is no time limit so spend a good amount of time finding identifying characteristics about this tree.
6. After the blindfolded participant feels they have spent enough time with the tree, lead them back to their starting point. Make sure you take them on a few detours on the way back, so they won't remember how they got to the tree.
7. Then take off the blindfold, and have them try to find "their tree." 8. Switch! Change positions so the initial guider is now the blindfolded person and repeat the activity.



Still confused? Get video instructions for this activity at www.columbiasprings.org/resources.

These instructions were written by Colorado Parks and Wildlife (www.cpw.state.co.us).

Backyard Bird Feeder

Make a Backyard Bird Feeder in about 15 minutes to attract and see those birds! Don't be surprised if non-native birds, like the ones that hang out in the rafters at Home Depot (English House Sparrow and Starling), also come to visit and feed. We recommend kids do this



You will need ...

- 1 Empty Water Bottle
- 1 Pencil (bird perch)
- 24" length Yarn
- 1 Push Pin
- 1 Marking Pen
- 1 Scissors
- 1 cup Wild Bird Seed
- **Optional:** Decorate with 3 colored rubber bands, green moss, sticks, etc. Birds are attracted to bright colors that look like their feathers.

Step by Step Directions

1. Make a loop at each end of yarn and attach tightly to neck of the bottle.
2. With pen, make two marks opposite each other on the bottle about 1 inch from the bottom of bottle (for the perch) AND two more marks about 2 inches above the 1-inch marks (for the feeding holes).
3. With scissors, cut a 0.25" slit at the marks you just made.
4. At the 1-inch slit, while gently twisting the pencil/perch, push it all the way through to the other side of the bottle. (See how it looks in picture above).
5. With scissors, widen the remaining holes to 0.5" diameter (to give the birds access to the seeds).
6. Fill the bottle with bird seed and screw on the top.
7. Use push pin to poke drainage holes in the bottom of bottle (to prevent rainwater from building up inside).

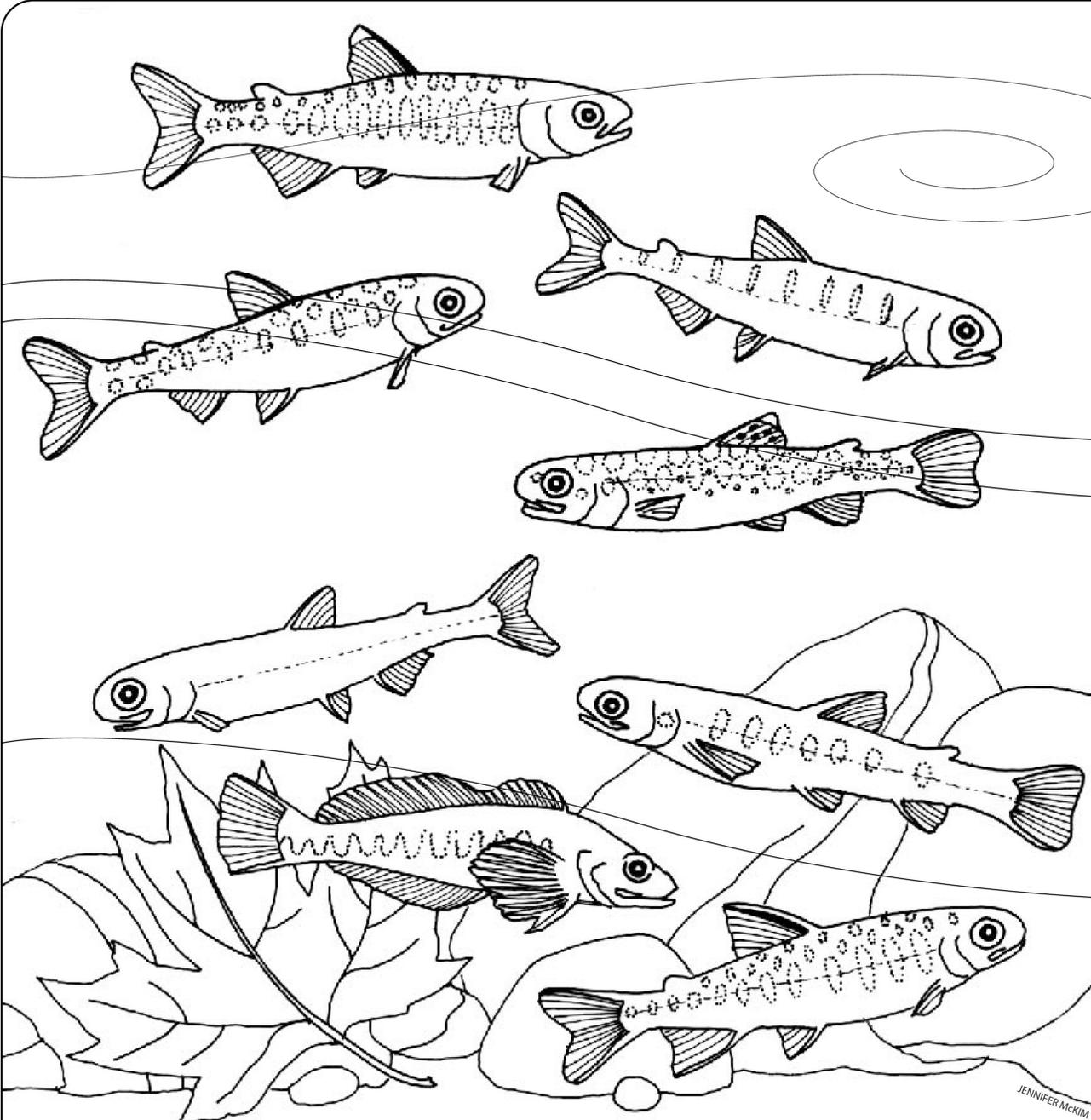


Build Your Own Bingo!

Columbia Springs invites you and your family to work together to create your own bingo board! Using pictures or words, fill in the board and work together to get a bingo! Want to share your work? Show us your boards online, tag us @columbiasprings! Have fun!

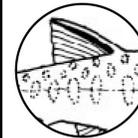
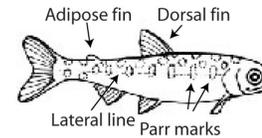
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Fish Identification Coloring Sheet

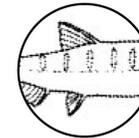


Streamkeepers

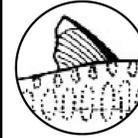
Each season Streamkeepers watch for spawning adult fish, and monitor the young fish populations in their local streams. They look for special characteristics to help them identify the species. Use these clues to help you identify each of these salmon fry – and one fish that isn't a salmon!



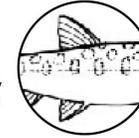
Coho:
The leading edge of the dorsal fin is white, followed by black.



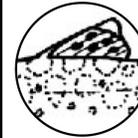
Chum:
Parr marks are narrow, evenly spaced, and located above the lateral line.



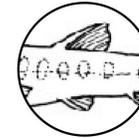
Chinook:
The leading edge of the dorsal fin is dark, and the fin has a white tip.



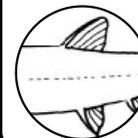
Sockeye:
Parr marks are irregular in size and location.



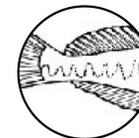
Rainbow Trout:
The dorsal fin is heavily spotted, and it has a white tip.



Cutthroat Trout:
Parr marks appear on the sides, but there are no spots on the back.



Pink:
Pink fry have no spots or parr marks on their bodies.



Prickly Sculpin:
Non-salmonids have no adipose fin.

JENNIFER MCKIM STONE