News release



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Students team up with local nonprofit to help save salmon James Monroe students to launch local restoration project

Who: Stilly-Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement Task Force

What: James Monroe Elementary "Restoration Ecology for Young Stewards" field trip

When: April 1, 2011

Where: Lively Environmental Center, 1918 Seattle Hill Road, Mill Creek, WA 98012

In a partnership with James Monroe Elementary School, the Stilly-Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement Task Force has not just educated but energized students in the fourth- and fifth-grade combined class. Students and the Task Force have been immersed since September in a watershed education program called Restoration Ecology for Young Stewards (REYS). REYS is an interactive inquiry-based education program that allows students to explore and investigate their local watershed and to make a difference in the world around them.

James Monroe students' classroom lessons, scientific experiments and local waterway explorations have been experiential stepping stones leading to April 1 when they will launch their very own restoration plan at Lively Environmental Center in Mill Creek. In addition to classroom projects, students have explored local waterways to learn more about habitat restoration, salmon biology and conservation, pollution prevention, and the ecology of the Puget Sound.

At the Everett Public Schools Lively Environmental Center on April 1, students will carefully install native plants they have studied and know will improve water quality and salmon habitat. They will also release juvenile salmon they have nurtured in their classroom. After the field trip, students will design interpretive signage so future students and visitors can share in the lessons they have learned and what others can do to ensure the future of salmon and our waterways.

Lively Environmental Center is Everett Public Schools' outdoor learning center with wooded trails, garden plots, salmon streams, a museum, and classrooms.

More information on the Stilly-Snohomish Task Force: The Stilly-Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement Task Force is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. The mission of the Task Force is to ensure the future of salmon in the Stillaguamish, Snohomish River basins, and Island County watersheds. Projects and programs focus on salmon habitat restoration and protection, and public outreach and education. Our and membership represents commercial, tribal, and recreational fishing interests, conservation organizations, the agricultural community, and area businesses. For more information, visit www.stillysnofish.org.