

LESSON: Learning the Local History for a Specific Heritage Corridor or Region of Washington State

[using one of NW Heritage Resources cultural heritage tour guides of Washington]

Learning Objectives: Students will demonstrate an understanding of the local histories for two different towns, cities and/or communities (could be a tribal reservation or geographic area – such as Skagit Valley or Stevens Pass - for instance) that are located along a specific heritage corridor (route or region) of Washington state.

Lesson Summary: Students use one of NW Heritage Resources cultural heritage tour guides of Washington to help them locate two towns and/or communities that are located along a specific heritage corridor (or region) of the state and learn about their local history.

Lesson Outline

1. Students are given a copy of one of NW Heritage Resources' cultural heritage tour guides for Washington. They are asked to look through the guide book (text pages, maps, CD track listings, and other information), and identify two different towns, cities, and/or communities (could be a tribal reservation or geographic area – such as Skagit Valley or Stevens Pass - for instance) that they wish to explore in greater depth.
2. After selecting their 2 different towns or communities, students are instructed to read the text in the guide book, review the map section, and listen to the CD tracks that pertain to those 2 towns or communities. If they wish to explore the town histories further, they can refer to the bibliography section of the tour guide or other sources (such as town websites or Historylink.com).
3. As students review the information in the tour guide about the 2 towns or communities they have selected, they are asked to write three different things they have learned about the history of that town or community on a piece of paper and then share them when they have completed the task. They are also asked to identify where the town or community is located along the heritage corridor (or route) they are studying.

Question for discussion: What are the similarities or differences between the histories of these two towns or communities? How has the history of each of the towns or communities you have studied been shaped by where it is located?