

### *Exploring Interconnectedness*

**Driving Questions:** How are we connected to the land here? What is a special place you return to?

**Learning Targets:** Expressing and reflecting on personal or shared experiences of place. Students explore and consider the Courtenay River Estuary as a special place.

**Connecting:** Invite students reflect on and illustrate a special place they have visited repeatedly; a place they feel connected to here in the Comox Valley. Invite students to consider what stands out about this special place, the unique/indelible characteristics, and what their 5 senses 'experience' in this special place.

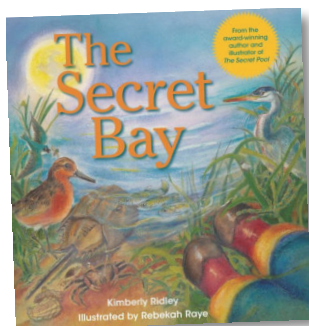


**Building from Clues:** A special place in the Comox Valley - the Courtenay River Estuary. Invite students, working in teams, to look carefully at this photograph, to make connections and ask their own questions. Project the remaining 3 photographs as a way to zoom in on this special place.

**Digging Deeper:** Invite students to consider the questions, “What did you see? What did you hear? What do you wonder? What questions do you have about things in this place” and share the video clip *The Courtenay River Estuary*. (4:15) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G2-wspfe0ZE>



Pause the clip intermittently (0:56, 1:30, 2:31, 3:20) to allow time for students to jot down their ideas on post-it notes in words/pictures. Invite students to share their thinking in response to the video clip.



**Whole group shared read:** Share select pages from the book *The Secret Bay* by Kimberley Ridley (It's a lengthy book with lots of detail.... lots to explore and consider...