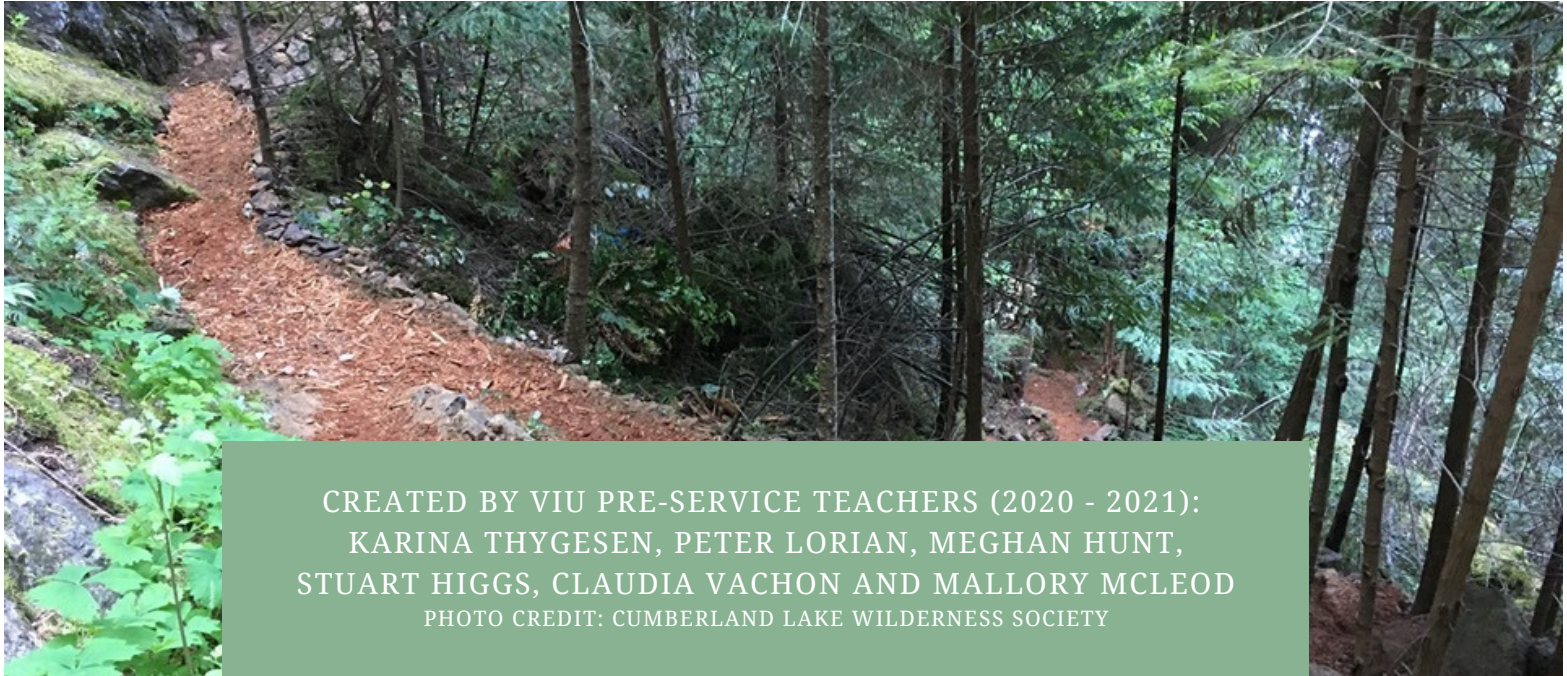

NAVIGATING NATURE

An outdoor education resource and naturalist guide for educators, students and community at Cumberland Lake Park



CREATED BY VIU PRE-SERVICE TEACHERS (2020 - 2021):
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PHOTO CREDIT: CUMBERLAND LAKE WILDERNESS SOCIETY

As educators we respectfully acknowledge that we live, teach and learn on the Unceded Traditional Territory of the K'ómoks First Nation. This includes the people known as the Sahtloot, Sasitla, Ieeksun and Puntledge whose stewardship of their land continues to this day.

Navigating Nature is an outdoor education resource and naturalist guide for our local educators, students and community in the Comox Valley. It was created to promote place-based learning and ecological literacy at Cumberland Lake Park in addition to the programs facilitated by Cumberland Lake Wilderness Society.

Cumberland Lake Wilderness Society (CLWS) is a local non-profit that aims to create “wonder and connection through outdoor experiences” at Cumberland Lake Park on Comox Lake. Formed in 2015, CLWS manages the campground, park and boat launch. CLWS also provides educational programming for school groups and the public. For more information about CLWS and their programs, visit their website at www.cumberlandlakepark.ca.

Navigating Nature includes guiding questions and activity ideas to enhance exploration of Cumberland Lake Park forest and trails, additional resources to extend learning experiences and an accompanying packet of 36 plant species cards. The plant species cards feature photos and names in English, French, Kwak'wala, Hul'qumi'num, and Latin.



BECOME A NATURALIST AT CUMBERLAND LAKE PARK WITH THE HELP OF THE 36 PLANT SPECIES CARDS INCLUDED WITH NAVIGATING NATURE. PRINT AND LAMINATE THESE CARDS TO USE IN A VARIETY OF LEARNING ACTIVITIES WHILE WALKING THE TRAILS AND EXPLORING THE FOREST.

PHOTO CREDIT: CUMBERLAND LAKE WILDERNESS SOCIETY

Guiding Questions

- What does it mean to be a naturalist?
- What is environmental stewardship?
- Which plant species are indigenous or invasive?
- Which plant species are edible or inedible?
- Which plant species are annual or perennial?
- What are the identifying features of a plant species?
- What are the traditional uses of a plant species?

Additional Resources

Plant Species Identification:

iNaturalist - www.inaturalist.org

Hul'qumi'num Tree Guide -

www.hulquminum.bc.ca/pubs/trees-guide.pdf

Pacific Northwest Plant Identification Cards by Jen McMullen

Translations:

Indigenous Languages - www.firstvoices.com

French Language - www.btb.termiumplus.gc.ca

Outdoor Education:

A Walking Curriculum by Gillian Judson

Seek App by iNaturalist

Geocaching - www.geocaching.com

AllTrails - www.alltrails.com

Naturalist Activities

Patterns: Can you create patterns using found materials around the forest floor?

Scavenger Hunt: Can you find all the plants on the list?

Sink/Float: Once you have found some of the items on the scavenger hunt list, find a puddle and explore which items sink and which items float.

Colour/Shape Hunt: Assign each person a different colour or shape and see how many different plants you can find in the forest to match.

Divide and Conquer: Assign one plant from the list to each person and explore the forest to find your plant.

iNaturalist: Can you identify the domain/kingdom/phylum/class/order/family/genus/species of a plant using the iNaturalist app?

Field, Forest, Stream: Compare different environments to understand how non-living elements influence the living elements within an ecosystem.

Microhabitats: How many microhabitats can you find in the forest while identifying the plants on the list?

How Big Is Your Tree?: Watch the video by Project Learning Tree - www.youtube.com/watch?v=StRgccP6IYc

Using the measurement skills you learn, measure the height of a tree in the forest.