

Watershed Education Programs for Grades K-5

The City of Maple Valley is sponsoring FREE Classroom and Field Trips to schools within Maple Valley's City limits through a partnership with Nature Vision.

Nature Vision is an award-winning environmental education non-profit organization serving over 70,000 students in our region annually. They foster appreciation and stewardship of our environment by educating and connecting community to the world around us. The programs offered are shown below.



Watershed Ecosystems (Grades K-5)*

We all live in a watershed, and it is up to us to keep the water that flows through it clean and plentiful. We introduce students to their own local watershed and to the plants and animals that share this important ecosystem with us. Students will also learn how a healthy environment cleans water naturally, and gain insight on the impact of humans on this system.

Wetland Filters (Grades 2-5)*

Learn how nature filters the water that flows through our ecosystems. Students will have the opportunity to participate in a hands-on demonstration of how wetlands clean water.

Salmon Cycle K-5*

Discover the connection between salmon, people, and the water we share. The salmon life cycle and what this keystone species requires from its ecosystem is discussed. Students will explore water quality issues and understand why healthy salmon habitat is good for Northwest ecosystems and people too!

Watershed Dynamics (Enviroscape) (Grades 3-5)

Students will interact with a tabletop model of a typical community to learn how their everyday choices affect the water quality in our watershed. Alternative choices to prevent watershed contamination are discussed.

Water Connection Field Trip (K-5)

Students will visit a local lake, wetland, or pond near their school and explore it with a naturalist. Students will observe plants and animals in this environment, examine and identify local freshwater invertebrates, and will learn about the health of our greater watershed systems. Older students may also participate in water quality tests for oxygen, pH, temperature and more.

Microplastics (3-5)

Plastics are a part of our everyday life that provide benefits and challenges to people. One of the biggest challenges is what happens to plastic when we no longer use it. This program explores how we use plastics, how they impact our water and environment, and what we can do to prevent plastic pollution from entering our oceans.

Healthy Water, Healthy Soil (K-5)*

Dig in to healthy soil and discover the living network of decomposers that benefit the ecosystems around us. Explore how healthy water keeps our Northwest soils healthy and understand how humans can impact soil through our interactions with water.

All Programs can be done in-person
 *Programs also available as a video call



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Each program is taught by an experienced educator from Nature Vision. These programs support the Next Generation Science Standards, the WA State Science Standards, and STEM Education.

Scheduling considerations:

- 💧 We are available to visit your school between 7:30 AM and 3:30 PM.
- 💧 Please allow one hour for each program if possible
- 💧 Feel free to schedule programs back to back (10:00, 11:00, 12:00), but if possible please leave 10 -15 minutes in between.
- 💧 Pre-registration is required.

To schedule programs or field trips, visit <http://www.naturevision.org/program-registration/>. Register online or print out the registration form and fax it in per the instructions.



If you have questions about these programs, please do not hesitate to contact Nature Vision directly:

Email: info@naturevision.org

Phone: (425) 836-2697

These programs are provided by Maple Valley City Council to support the work of the Lake Wilderness Citizen Advisory Committee and Surface Water Management Program.