

# Salish Sea Experience Field Trip

## Bellingham Public Schools

This program was first offered to Bellingham Public Schools (BPS) Elementary schools in 2015 after a pilot year with two of the schools.

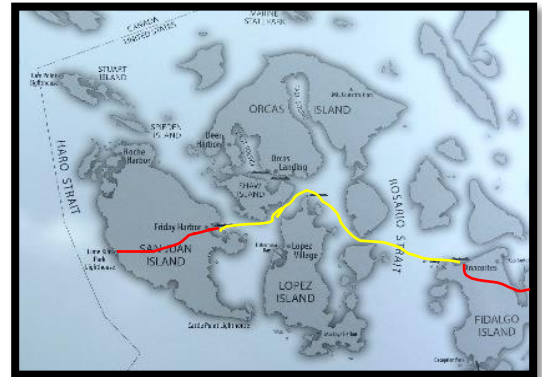
## Learning Target

Everything that happens in the watershed of the Salish Sea impacts the health of the creatures and habitats in it – and that includes US!

## The Field Trip Experience Description

The field trip takes participants to Lime Kiln Point State Park on the west side of San Juan Island via Bellingham Public Schools bus and Washington State ferry. Once there, students savor the stunning views while eating lunch on the rocks, then participate in three rotations and an optional hike:

- Choosing from stewardship and nature connection options presented by Park Ranger David Halpern or learning or learning scientific skills from Jeff Hogan of Killer Whale Tales.
- Watching a presentation on orcas, their behaviors, and the impact humans have on them in the lighthouse with Dr. Bob Otis, retired professor from Ripon College who has studied the whales for 25 years.
- Climbing the rocks and exploring the rocky seashore in a responsible manner while identifying tide pool creatures by observing characteristics to classify them with Krista Gordon, **Salish Sea Experience** director.
- Hiking to the kiln to learn about Washington State history and how the park got its name if there is time at the end of the day.



All day long, the meaning of **stewardship** in context of the **Seven Principles of "Leave No Trace"** is used and reinforced to provide awareness of human impact and connect the day's experiences with language they will hear in their community as well as use in their individual lives.