

LESSON - Mapping and Geography of a Heritage Corridor (Route) in Washington State

[using one of NW Heritage Resources' cultural heritage tour guides and a road map for Washington]

Learning Objectives: Students will demonstrate an understanding of the geography of Washington state by locating a specific heritage corridor and geographical features of that corridor on a map of Washington. They will also demonstrate an understanding of locations of different regions within Washington and basic directions (east, west, north, south).

Lesson Summary: Students use one of NW Heritage Resources' cultural heritage tour guides to identify the location of a specific heritage corridor in Washington state. They will identify the major routes or roads used for the heritage corridor, the specific region of Washington state where the heritage corridor is located, and the distinctive geographical features that can be found along the heritage corridor.

Lesson Outline

1. Students are given a map of Washington state that includes locations of major roads, towns and counties. They are also given a copy of one of NW Heritage Resources' cultural heritage tour guides. They are then asked to look through the contents of the NW Heritage Resources' cultural heritage tour guide and determine what heritage corridor (route) is presented in the tour guide.
2. Students locate the heritage corridor (or route) presented in the tour guide on a road map of Washington state. The heritage corridor (route) in the tour guide may follow more than one major road. **[For example:** this is true for the Cascade Loop Heritage Tour, the Olympic Peninsula Loop and others] Students are asked to list the major roads for this heritage corridor on a piece of paper.
3. Comparing the heritage corridor maps and information in the tour guide with the Washington state road map, students describe the specific location of the heritage corridor within Washington state. Is it located in eastern Washington? western Washington? Both east and west? North? South? Central?
4. Using the cultural heritage tour guide as a reference, students are asked to describe what kinds of distinctive geographical regions they might pass through if they were driving this heritage corridor – such as: through forests and woodlands, over a mountain pass, along rivers, lakes or other bodies of water, an open plateau region, desert, Columbia Basin, rain forest, Channeled Scablands, rangelands, and others..

Questions for discussion: If you were driving the route outlined in the heritage tour guide would you be driving from east to west? West to east? North to south? South to north? Or would you be traveling in a circle? What directions would you be driving in that circle?