

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Your child's class will be joining *Sound Experience* for an exciting, informative and fun learning experience on Puget Sound. Sound Studies programs are marine/environmental education field trips which involve hands-on exploration of Puget Sound from the deck of a 133-foot sailing vessel.

Sound Experience shares with you the goal of a safe, enjoyable education experience for your child. Our ship, the historic schooner *Adventuress*, is large, stable and certified by the US Coast Guard to carry passengers. *Adventuress* meets or exceeds all applicable Coast Guard and FCC regulations, is inspected annually for safety by the Coast Guard, and carries all required safety equipment, including life jackets available to all participants issued at the discretion of the Captain in extreme and inclement weather or other severe circumstances. *Sound Experience* crew are fully trained in safety procedures. *Adventuress* carries full liability insurance for all participants while on board the vessel and additionally insures the school as well.

The Program

Before boarding, students will assemble ashore to meet the crew. Students are divided into five small groups, with approximately 5 to 8 students per group. Each group has a designated *Sound Experience* crew member who will be their teacher and supervisor for the entire program. Before motoring away from the dock, the entire group will receive a safety orientation from the Captain informing them of appropriate behavior, where they may and may not be, safety equipment, etc.

Once the vessel is underway, students may help set up sampling devices, such as a plankton tow. They will be asked to haul on the halyards while singing sea chanteys to help set *Adventuress*' sails.

The groups rotate to each learning station, participating in hands-on activities which may include examining marine life, plankton, as well as assisting in steering and navigating the vessel.

What We Ask of You

- Please read, sign, and return the enclosed release form "Sound Experience Release Agreement."
- Please assist your child in preparing for their trip by reviewing the What to Wear and Bring list.
- If your child has medication for bee stings, allergies, asthma, etc., please ensure that they bring these with them.

The Sound Studies program is a special opportunity for your child to have an on-the-water experience that will help them develop an appreciation and better understanding of the Puget Sound ecosystem, and an enthusiasm for science as a subject area of great importance and fun. All of us at Sound Experience look forward to your child's class joining us.

If you have any concerns or questions, please contact your child's teacher or our office.

Sail Again!

Sound Experience is a membership supported organization. Members can sail for free on any of our Public Sails, bring guests on at a discount, and receive discounts on most of our summer overnight adventures. With your membership dues, you can help us protect Puget Sound through education and preserve our maritime heritage. Memberships help offset program costs; enabling us to offer educational experiences to Puget Sound youth and adults.


Sincerely,
Catherine Collins
Executive Director

Sound Studies Program Aboard the *Adventuress*

What to Wear and Bring

It is not necessary for students to buy these items. We have extra rain gear. Please let us know if anyone in your group needs to borrow any gear.

When preparing for your trip, remember that it is often 10 degrees cooler on the water, and the sun's effects are magnified due to reflection, even on cloudy days. This is a hands-on program, so wear and bring clothes you don't mind getting dirty.

- Warm coat
 - Sweater and/or sweatshirt
 - Long-sleeved shirt
 - Long pants
 - Pair(s) of warm socks
 - Soft-soled, closed-toed shoes (tennis shoes or hiking boots)
 - Warm hat that covers your ears.
 - Waterproof rain gear (regardless of weather predictions)
 - * Rain coat, with hood, or rain hat
 - * Rain pants
 - Sun block (it is preferred that sun block is administered prior to boarding)
 - Water bottle with your name on it
 - Bag or knapsack for the above items
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- Please dress in layers.

Food

On five-hour programs only, bring bag lunches— they will be eaten mid-program. On three-hour programs, we suggest you bring lunches and eat them on shore prior to or after your program. Please inform our office if there are any food allergies in your group that we can prepare for on the ship.

We encourage you to use recyclable materials in packing your lunch. We sometimes catch bottles, cans, plastic wrappers, and other trash in our nets. You can help reduce that litter by re-using containers and recycling your trash.

Please DO NOT bring these items:

- Radios, ipod, CD players or other headset devices, cell phones, laptops, Palm Pilots, video games, or other distracting equipment that could get lost or damaged. Cameras are OK.
- Drugs or alcohol
- Weapons
- Cigarettes: *Smoking is not permitted on the vessel*
- Gum: *It inevitably ends up on the deck and is very difficult to remove*

SOUND EXPERIENCE - Release Agreement

PO Box 1390 · Port Townsend, WA 98368 · (360) 379-0438 · Fax: (360) 379-0439 · programs@soundexp.org

PLEASE PRINT

For DAY TRIPS – Please bring with you to the ship.

For OVERNIGHT TRIPS – Please send to office ONE MONTH prior to voyage.

A separate agreement is required for each minor and adult participant. Agreements for participants under age 18 must be signed by parent or legal guardian.

Name _____ Age (if youth) _____

Group _____ Trip Date _____

Parent/Guardian of Minor _____

Phone Day _____ Evening _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Sign me up for Sound Experience E-News: Yes No

Emergency Contact _____

Phone Day _____ Evening _____

I am a current member of Sound Experience: Yes No

I would like to receive information about: Educational Programs Corporate Membership

Medical Release

I hereby give permission to the Sound Experience Staff and/or any adult member of the participating group to transport myself/my child to a doctor and/or hospital for treatment. I authorize all medical, surgical, diagnostic and hospital care procedures which may be performed or prescribed for myself/or my child by a licensed physician or hospital, when efforts to contact me are unsuccessful, and when deemed immediately necessary or advisable by the physician to safeguard myself/or my child. I waive my right of informed consent to such treatment. *If, for religious or other reasons, you wish NOT to authorize treatment, please attach a letter of explanation.*

Photo Release

I hereby give permission for Sound Experience Staff and/or any person acting on their behalf to photograph myself/my child and allow Sound Experience to use these pictures as it sees fit. I release all publication rights to said photos. *If, for any reason, you wish NOT to authorize release of photos, please attach a letter of explanation.*

Participation Release

I acknowledge that I have voluntarily chosen and HEREBY GIVE permission for myself/my child to participate in a program conducted by Sound Experience. I hereby certify that I am cognizant of the inherent dangers of sailing and water related activities and I hereby assume such risks. I HEREBY UNDERSTAND AND AGREE that Sound Experience, its owners, directors, officers, operators, agents, employees, instructors, staff and crew together with other unnamed assistants, shall not be held liable in any way for any occurrence in connection with any accident, injury or occurrence to myself or the above named participant in connection with the activities of Sound Experience unless the same is as a result of the negligence on the part of the above referred entities and persons. I further hereby waive and release any claim for personal injury or death against the above referred entities and persons and any and all damages to me, the above named participant, my estate, my family, heirs and assigns. In consideration of myself or the above named participant being allowed to participate in the activities of Sound Experience, I hereby personally assume all risks in connection with said activities, whether foreseeable or unforeseeable and further to save and hold harmless said program, entities and persons from any claim by me, the above named participant, our families, estates, heirs and/or assigns arising out of my or the above named participant's enrollment and participation in this program. I further agree to indemnify Sound Experience for all claims, demands, costs, or judgments arising out of my own acts or omissions arising from by participation. I further state that I am of lawful age and legally competent to sign this affirmation and release; that I understand the terms herein are contractual and not a mere recital; and that I have signed this document as my voluntary act.

I HAVE FULLY INFORMED MYSELF OF THE CONTENT OF THIS AGREEMENT BY READING IT BEFORE SIGNING.

Participant x _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian of Minor participant _____ Date _____

Natural or Adoptive Parent Legal Guardian