



## Dear Group Chaperone,

We are pleased you will be joining Sound Experience for a voyage of discovery on Puget Sound aboard the schooner *Adventuress*. It is our hope to provide an enjoyable, memorable and educational experience for all. Adult chaperones have many options throughout the program. It is our intent to involve you and to help you feel a part of the program, so come prepared to hoist sails and get your feet wet!

The Sound Explorations program is presented in a Watch Group format. Students are typically divided into three smaller watch groups, each led by two of our crew. Together the students and crew learn and perform daily ship duties, learn and assist in safely sailing the vessel, become engaged in the environmental education curriculum, and enjoy life aboard the ship.

### **There are several ways for you to participate during the program.**

1. **Join a group:** Spend each day with the students as they experience the wonders of Puget Sound. However, we ask that you refrain from answering questions addressed to students.
2. **Assist with sail handling:** The crew would be glad to share their knowledge of the ship and sailing in exchange for your help in trimming the sails.
3. **Relax:** Perhaps you would most enjoy a chance to experience the beauty of Puget Sound from your own quiet corner of the ship.

### **There are also some ways in which you can be helpful to our staff and your group leader.**

1. **Crowd Control:** There are several times during the program when one person is making a presentation to the entire group. That person would greatly appreciate any assistance you can provide in helping the students around you to stay focused. If a student near you is having trouble paying attention, a tap on the shoulder or a shake of your head would be a big help.
2. **Role Model:** Listen to the Captain's safety talk and participate in ship-board orientation, making sure what you do follows those guidelines. We realize that you may be familiar with boats and with a different way of doing things, but it really helps to avoid confusion with the students if they see you follow *Adventuress'* guidelines.
3. **Feedback:** We are very interested in what you think about our program. We would love to hear any thoughts you have about the students' experience, your own experience and any suggestions you may have on how we can make the program better.

We hope that you have an enjoyable experience with us. Our crew looks forward to meeting you on the ship. Please do not hesitate to call if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,  
Amy Kovacs  
Education Coordinator