

## Ms. Andujo's Kindergarten/Grade 1 Class



**September 18th 2015**

### **Mudflats at the Tofino Botanical Gardens**

We spent the day in the Tofino Botanical Gardens for a muddy adventure! The students got mud behind their ears and between their toes, discovered the dynamic habitat of the mudflats and learned the importance of the changing tides. We tested a class hypothesis on mudflat biodiversity - most students' hypothesis was that we would see 3-5 plants and animals - turns out we saw 10 different species!



**October 19th 2015**

### **Colours of the Forest**

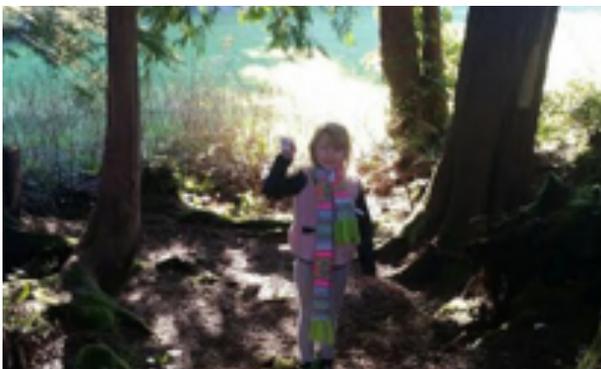
Winter Raincoast Field School has officially begun and that means it's time for micro-adventures! This morning Ms. Andujo's class went outside for a colour scavenger hunt; each student's goal was to find something in the rainforest to represent one of the colours in their holding tray. They got to learn about the changing colours of the leaves, the abundance of seasonal berries and the rarity of certain colours in the natural world. Nice work everyone!



**November 30th 2015**

### **Art Gallery and Weather Changes**

During this drastically changing weather day, students walked down to Eagle Aerie Gallery, taking note of signs of winter enroute. Students found snow, frost and leafless trees, then spotted some storm clouds rolling into town! Looks like winter has just about arrived! Once at the gallery, students had to choose their favourite piece of art and then create their very own painting based on the style they observed.



**December 14th 2015**

### **Hibernation and Bear Hunting**

After learning about hibernation with Ms. Andujo, students got to use their observation skills and search for clues to find hidden bear cut-outs all over the school forest. Bears were hidden in nooks and crannies of the forest and under logs - perfect places for bears to hibernate.

## Ms. Andujo's Kindergarten/Grade 1 Class



**January 25th 2016**

### **Hibernation, Adaptation, Migration**

Students have been learning all about techniques that animals use to survive the cold, and today they got to role-play animals' winter behaviour with races and balancing contests. Students acted like shorebirds during a migration race, like trees during adaptation yoga, and like bats and worms during a hibernation challenge. Check out the students hibernating upside-down like bats!



**February 29th**

### **Intertidal Zonation**

It was all sunshine and smiles today at Tonquin Beach! Students learned about beach ethics and intertidal zonation and then went on some coastal exploring missions!



**May 12th 2016**

### **Whale Tales**

So many whales in the sea! Thanks to the guides at Ocean Outfitters, students got to see tons of grey whales, a sea lion haul out and several different bird species. One whale even breached in between our two boats – lucky!



**June 6th 2016**

### **Island Salmon Adventures**

Students had an amazing day on Echachis! They learned how to smoke salmon over the fire, went on some seaweed discovering missions, ventured around the island and had a salmon feast for lunch! Thank you Joe Martin for the salmon smoking, and to Gisele Martin for showing the students around the island and sharing a ton of knowledge.

## Ms. Burrow's Grade 1/2 Class



**September 28th 2015**

### **Surfing at North Chesterman's**

Along with our awesome instructors from Pacific Surf School, we spent a glorious day in the sunshine at North Chesterman's Beach. Some students tried surfing for the first time and others became masters at high-speed boogie boarding. The students went on a hunt to find a new and unknown beach denizen to learn about, and then they learned to identify juvenile gulls and even found one chomping down on a crab!



**October 20th 2015**

### **Spider Hunt**

Magnifying glasses and spider data sheets in hand, the students in Ms. Burrow's class hit the trails for a spider hunt! The students made a group hypothesis to predict which forest microhabitat would be the most populated by spiders, then searched for our 8-legged friends in soil, gravel, grass, bushes, and trees. Turns out the grass and bushes have the highest spider-occupancy! The students also applied their in-class knowledge of spiders to spot different types of spider webs.



**December 4th 2015**

### **Interactions Games**

Students in Ms. Burrow's class learned all about ecological communities and how species interact in the forest. They did team races to simulate mutualistic interactions and parasitic interactions. Then students went for a jaunt through the forest to find pairs of organisms that have a mutualistic relationship and help each other throughout life – and students got to draw parallels to how members of our social community help each other out!



**January 26th 2016**

### **Directions and Maps**

After learning about cardinal directions and how to navigate with a map, students set out into the school grounds for a navigation contest! Ten stations were set up around the school grounds, each one containing a navigation question and a clue to the next station. Students were speeding around the field from one station to the next and showed the strength of teamwork while finding their way.

## Ms. Burrow's Grade 1/2 Class



**March 8th 2016**

### **Making a map of Tofino**

Students have been learning all about cardinal directions and map reading, and today they made their own map of downtown Tofino! Students practiced using landmarks and cardinal directions to navigate and then added symbols to represent landmarks on their map. This student has a tree to represent the village green, a book about stars for the library, and an envelope for the post office.



**May 10th 2016**

### **Big Beach Intertidaling and Aquarium visit**

Students spent the day in Ukee and searched for animal habitat at Big Beach in the cool fog! The students found all sorts of different seaweed, crabs, snails and chitons and got to discover how these organisms interact with each other. Then after some fun in the sun for lunch, students got to get up close and personal with some lesser-known species during our visit to the Ucluelet Aquarium! Such a fun day!



**May 24th 2016**

### **Wildlife Watching**

Before boarding the wildlife watching boat, students learned all about interactions between different local wildlife with some predator-prey games, and got to hear an amazing story from Gisele Martin about the many interactions between wolves, deer and ravens. Then it was onto the Stellar Sea for some wildlife sighting missions! Thanks Jamie's Whaling Station for showing all these young naturalists all the exciting animals along our shores.

## Mr. Grigg's Grade 4/5 Class



**September 29th 2015**

### **Kelp Forest Paddling**

We headed out on stand up paddleboards (along with Tofino Paddle Surf guides) for kelp forest explorations! The students paddled out to the kelp forests, then got their snorkel-covered faces in the water to discover the wonders of the subtidal. They found urchins, kelp crabs, kelp isopods, various fishes, and of course lots of kelp! Then the students became teachers and worked in teams to draw a kelp forest creature and show off their knowledge of this incredible ecosystem.



**November 13th 2015**

### **Dockside Ocean Pollution**

The rain let up for us while students investigated ocean pollution at 4th street dock. Students documented the abundance and diversity of marine debris, picking it up whenever possible. They also learned about non-visible pollution such as chemicals and pesticides, and the uptake of these chemicals by our low-trophic level friends – plankton! After a plankton tow, students learned about bioaccumulation in the marine food web and the ecological role of plankton in the marine ecosystem.



**November 20th 2015**

### **Plankton**

After learning about marine debris, bioaccumulation and the impact of chemical pollution on plankton, students hunkered down to discover the huge diversity of plankton in our ocean. They found copepods, barnacle larvae, water fleas and even spotted some tiny phytoplankton - diatoms! Did you know that diatoms are filled with oils to compensate for their heavy siliceous skeleton? And when they get smashed ashore, the oils spread to contribute to the formation of sea foam!



**December 2nd 2015**

### **Beach Clean-up**

The short calm between the storms was impeccable timing for students to conduct a beach clean up at Long Beach! Students collected neat things like a truck tire, shoes and even a teddy bear! As a cleanup break, students reviewed their understanding of physics and experimented with driftwood levers to lift other students, and even Mr. Grigg! Once back in class, students quantified and sorted their debris and graphed their data. Soon they'll be using the debris to build their very own Pete Clarkson-style sculpture!

## Mr. Grigg's Grade 4/5 Class



**January 29th 2016**

### **Ocean Pollution – Meeting Pete Clarkson**

Students are part way through their long-term project of building a piece of art out of marine debris, and during this field school session they got to meet the master and inspiration of this art project – Pete Clarkson! Students met him at the Tofino Botanical Gardens and visited the piece he built to commemorate the 2011 Japanese tsunami tragedy. Then it was off to Pete's studio to see his current projects, and get some insight on his building tricks and techniques. A big thank you to Pete Clarkson for taking time out of his day to inspire Mr. Grigg's students!



**February 25th 2016**

### **Ocean pollution – Impacts of Plastic on Marine Life**

The final stage of building a piece of art out of marine debris is underway! Students have nearly completed their masterpiece, and are getting ready to write about how the debris affects marine life. Students learned about all sorts of plastic that end up in the ocean; grocery bags, plastic rings, lighters, plastic shipping pellets (nurdles) and even microplastics. Students discussed which marine food these plastics might be confounded with, which sea creatures are most likely to get affected, how they are affected and how pollutants move around the trophic levels.



**June 8-9th 2016**

### **Restorative Camping**

What an amazing overnight camping trip! Students learned about forestry by transitioning from old growth to second growth to a clear cut forest, then learned all about the riparian zone and its importance for salmon habitat. Afterward students checked smolt traps to identify different salmon species, and collaborated to plant trees and clear out alder. In the evening students headed to camp to set up tents and ended the day by fire-roasting their dinner and hearing stories around the campfire with Gisele Martin. The second day was packed with beach exploring and beach games. Thank you Central Westcoast Forest Society for showing these kids some restoration tips, and to Green Point Campground in Pacific Rim National Park for hosting us!

## Ms. Hansen's Grade 6/7 Class



**October 7th 2015**

### **Beach Seine in the Mudflats**

We went out in the mudflats at the Tofino Sea Kayak docks for some sea creature collections! After a plankton tow, the students checked out the drifters of the sea up close with magnifying glasses and microscopes. Then everyone worked together to pull up a beach seine and investigate the wonders of the eelgrass beds. We found sculpins, perch, jellies and more, and scooped up a massive kelp crab!



**November 5th 2015**

### **Nature Photojournalism**

Students geared up with cameras and notebooks to document their learning at Thornton Creek Hatchery. They learned about salmon's role in the ecosystem, reproductive success in the hatchery, and interactions between salmon and other creatures around Thornton Creek. Students even got to hold some salmon eggs! The goal was to record information about the hatchery and capture key functions of the facility with their cameras, so that back in class they have the tools to write an article about the hatchery.



**December 4th 2015**

### **Moss, Fungi, & Lichen**

Students have started to learn about kingdoms of life and classification systems. During this Field School session, students went on a hunt through the forest to collect samples of mosses, fungi and lichen, to represent members of different kingdoms. Back in class, students checked out these awesome organisms under a microscope to discover all the neat features of these lesser-known kingdoms!



**March 3rd 2016**

### **Comparative Intertidal study**

After learning about biodiversity in the intertidal zone, students worked together to do a comparative study on the biodiversity in two different intertidal habitats; rocks on a steep incline vs. rocks on a gradual incline. Students learned research techniques like setting up transects and using quadrats, then after reviewing their species ID skills, they went to Tonquin to test out their hypotheses. Most students predicted that gradual inclines would yield more biodiversity – now we just have to wait until they compile their results and analyze their data to find out!

## Ms. Hansen's Grade 6/7 Class



**May 3rd 2016**

### **Surfing: Ucluelet and Tofino**

After some ice breaker games, grade 6 and 7 students from Ucluelet and Tofino got to spend a fun-filled beach day together! Students went surfing, had lunch around a beach bonfire and made new friends over a huge game of ankle tag. We can't wait to find out how the first day of high school next September goes for this cohort!



**May 4th 2016**

### **Kayaking to Meares Big Tree Trail**

This day was hyper-speed, teamwork mania! Not only were students efficient, quick paddlers, they also worked incredibly well as a team, and got to learn a ton en route. Students learned about kelp, mudflats and sea stars on the way to Meares, and then learned all about traditional harvest and the history of logging protests from Gisele Martin while walking the Big Tree Trail! Amazing work everyone!

## Ms. Hovi's Grade 3/4 Class



**September 30th 2015**

### **Kelp Forest Paddling**

We headed out on stand up paddleboards (along with Tofino Paddle Surf guides) for kelp forest explorations! The students paddled out to the kelp forests, then got their snorkel-covered faces in the water to discover the wonders of the subtidal. They found urchins, kelp crabs, kelp isopods, various fishes, and of course lots of kelp! Then the students became teachers and worked in teams to draw a kelp forest creature and show off their knowledge of this incredible ecosystem.



**October 21st 2015**

### **Wolf Games**

Ms. Hovi's class has now been studying wolves for several weeks, and they got to role-play wolf behaviour during this Field School session! While blind-folded, the students used scent to find members of their 'wolf-pack'. Then they simulated wolf response to the abundance of essential resources - including responding to surprise elements like human-made landscapes. Lastly was a predator-prey interactions game in the forest - the students were able to understand the power of a wolf pack and their interactions with other species by enacting wolves, their prey and their predators.



**December 1st 2015**

### **STORMS!**

What do animals do during west coast storms? Adapt, hide, or thrive! During this crazy storm students learned about how animals adapt to adverse weather conditions by creating their own waterproofing, or settling into a dry nook. Students searched for appropriate storm habitat - a tougher task than it may seem! Then, while getting up close and personal with the mudflats, they learned about other animals that love this weather and thrive in it!



**January 20th 2016**

### **Science Experiment!: Birds and Feeders**

Students in Ms. Hovi's class are learning all about the scientific method right now, and students designed an experiment to test the feeding rate in two different bird feeders. Then students went out into the school field to scope out a bird-rich area and set up the feeders. Over the course of the next 2 months, students are doing weekly bird counts to assess the abundance and diversity of birds at each feeder. So far students have found varied thrushes, fox sparrows and Steller's Jays!

## Ms. Hovi's Grade 3/4 Class



**March 9th 2016**

### **Tofino geography, Canadian geography, World geography**

Students hunkered down in the woods and wrote what they love about living on the coast, including their favourite places and activities around Tofino. Then students got to see photos of different provinces and territories in Canada, dig out some adjectives to describe the photos, and guess which province/territory the photos came from! Next up: students in Ms. Hovi's class will write a letter to students in another province to tell them about their home and ask about life in another part of our beautiful country.



**May 20th 2016**

### **Baking & Math**

Students spent a morning prepping for their upcoming camping trip! They worked together to bake some delicious berry muffins (while practicing their fractions!) and made some tasty spaghetti sauce that will be devoured for their dinner at camp.



**May 31 - June 2nd 2016**

### **Camping, Exploring, Adapting**

Ms. Hovi's class just got back from an epic camping trip! Students explored the intertidal, sang around the fire with Gisele Martin, learned about animal tracking from our local wildlife specialist, Todd Windle, made face masks with clay from the earth, roasted their own dinner over a campfire, did some quiet mindful listening at the beach, played beach games and forest games, and learned some great adaptive lessons when we got a full-on Tofino downpour! Thanks to Green Point Campground in Pacific Rim National Park Reserve for hosting us, and to all the parents who geared up their kids for this fun-filled Raincoast Field School trip!

## Ms. Michaud & Mr. Clarke's Grade 2/3 Class



**September 23rd 2015**

### **Surfing at North Chesterman's**

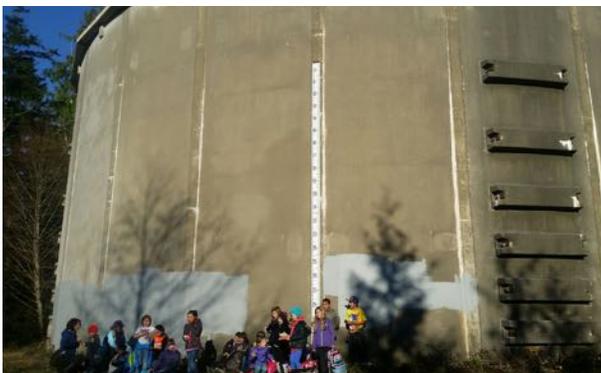
With our fantastic instructors from Pacific Surf School, we spent a wonderful, wet day in the surf. The students made weather observations and worked together to create a weather forecast for the day. Then it was off into the surf for aspiring pro-surfers, wild boogie boarders, and crews of wave-splashers. Turns out the class weather predictions were accurate: it poured all day long. Good thing everyone was in a wetsuit!



**November 4th 2015**

### **Five Senses Exploring**

How are rocks formed? What do mushrooms do in the forest? Why does salal grow so thick? These are just a few inquiries that came from students after they tuned into their five senses to investigate the natural world. Guided by a scavenger hunt, students looked, smelled, tasted, listened and touched different things in the rainforest, while using those senses to characterize the biotic and abiotic factors they found. The end of the trail led to an ocean lookout, where students worked together to spot some exciting sea creatures!



**November 27th 2015**

### **Water Cycle – Water Tower trip**

After learning all about condensation, evaporation and precipitation in class, students discovered a crucial part of Tofino's water cycle – the water tower! Along the way, students investigated the physics of water flow and the properties that enable this solvent to freeze and melt. Students also learned that the water that comes out of the tap is more than 4.5 billion years old - meaning it's the same water that was around during the time of the dinosaurs!



**February 2nd 2016**

### **Science Experiment: Stick and Leaf races**

Which natural item will float faster down a stream? This is the question that student scientists answered. After choosing their items, students created a hypothesis and tested it by dropping items in the stream and timing the transit time from point A to point B. Then class data was put together to draw final conclusions: leaves are faster than sticks...and pinecones were disqualified – because they sink!

## Ms. Michaud & Mr. Clarke's Grade 2/3 Class



### **March 17th 2016** **Sand Experiment!**

Students worked with their buddies in Ms. Seibel's class to do a sand experiment in the sun - after investigating sand from different parts of the beach under a magnifying glass, they tested it for the presence of living organisms like shell fragments. To test this, vinegar was added to the sand; in the presence of living organisms, the vinegar would react with the calcium carbonate in the shell fragments to create bubbles! Students found signs of living organisms in the higher tidal zones but not down close to the water. Nice teamwork, everyone!



### **April 29th 2016** **Paddleboarding Champions**

Students experimented with stand up paddle boards, showed off their boogie boarding skills and even tested out their surf abilities all while exploring the kelp forest. After some well-earned lunch, students learned neat things about the rainforest during a caterpillar learning chain, and topped off the day with some bull kelp jump rope contests! Thanks to Tofino Paddle Surf for showing these guys some good paddling tricks!



### **June 3rd 2016** **Teambuilding Beach Day**

Students headed to Tonquin Beach for a day of teambuilding activities. They guided their blind folded classmates to meet our local trees, and played trust games on the beach and in the forest, like catching their falling classmates from high stumps! Nice team work grade 2/3s!

## Ms. Morris's Grade 5/6 Class



**September 22nd 2015**

### **Kayaking to Meares Island**

We went on a paddling trip (with our awesome guides from Paddle West Kayaking) to Meares Island's Big Tree Trail! The students proved the value of teamwork and cooperation while learning to negotiate tandem kayaks in the ebb and flow of Clayoquot Sound. Along the way, the class spotted a variety of coastal birds, including wading Great Blue Herons, Herring Gulls gulping down fish and dozens of Ruddy Turnstones feeding in the intertidal zone.



**October 28th 2015**

### **Big Buddy – Little Buddy Scavenger Hunt**

Big Buddies in Ms. Morris's class led a scavenger hunt with their Little Buddies in Ms. Renard's class. They found all sorts of treasures in the rainforest, from slimy mushrooms, to local birds, to nurse log habitats. After learning all about the brain with Ms. Morris, Big Buddies were in charge of teaching their Little Buddies newly learned facts about the rainforest, and proved how much easier it is for the brain to retain information when you have to teach it!



**November 18th 2015**

### **Tofino goes to Ahousaht**

When students from Ahousaht and Tofino met for the first time, they were anxious and out of their element, but after some hesitation, conversation sparked between pairs of students from different communities, and common interests emerged. With new friends, students explored tidepools and hiked through the rainforest to a nearby beach. During their morning introduction students were hesitant, but when Tofino students began their journey back home, kids from both communities were begging for another chance to meet – next time in Tofino!



**November 26th 2015**

### **Diversity of Life: Fungi**

Learning about the diversity of life is so fun! Students are learning about all those awesome, mysterious organisms such as fungi, lichens, cyanobacteria, seaweeds, bryozoans, tunicates and sponges. What is their role? What is their story? Part one of diversity of life studies - fungi! Students learned about the ecological role of fungi, fungal diversity and reproduction, as well as techniques to identify a mushroom and make spore prints!

## Ms. Morris's Grade 5/6 Class



**January 29th 2016**

### **Diversity of Life: Seaweeds**

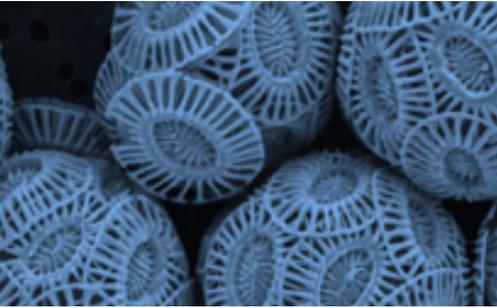
As part of their diversity of life unit, students in Ms. Morris's class got to learn all about seaweed! Students went on a rainy-day beach mission to collect some photosynthetic beauties, and then created their own herbarium by pressing and labeling the seaweeds they collected.



**February 12th 2016**

### **Diversity of Life: Marine Invertebrates**

After learning about how scientists classify animals, students went for a dockside adventure to find marine invertebrates with different evolutionary lineages – sponges, sea squirts and bryozoans, to name a few. Then, after a plankton tow students used their microscope skills to discover the diversity of zooplankton – and how different larval marine invertebrates look from the adults that are growing on the dock!



**April 8th 2016**

### **Diversity of Life: Protists and Bacteria**

Students got to learn all about some of the most unique creatures out there – protists and bacteria! After learning about cellular differences and lifestyles of species in these 2 kingdoms, students set out to do their own research project about them!



**May 17th 2016**

### **Echachis: History & Responsibility**

Students headed out for yet another beautiful day on Echachis! They got to learn some of the many wonders of the area from Gisele Martin, including whale bone uses, the history of villages and the benefits of nettles. Students also got on board a good discussion on plant care and traditional responsibility.



**May 27th 2016**

### **Kelp Forest Paddling**

Students spent a great day on the water while testing their paddleboarding abilities. They headed out to the kelp forest to discover the mysteries of the subtidal, then learned about the structure of the kelp forest and its importance to the animals that live in the dynamic habitat. Thank you Tofino Paddle Surf for taking the students out to explore!

## Ms. Renard's Kindergarten class



**October 2nd 2015**

### **Mudflats at the Tofino Botanical Gardens**

We went out in the mudflats of the Tofino Botanical Gardens for some science-filled fun! The students learned the power of predictions in science, while testing hypotheses on weather and species diversity. Throughout the day, students worked together to spot birds in different habitats, investigate predator-prey relationships among birds, and explore the biology of key prey species like herring and crabs. They also learned about the ecological role of bacteria, both in the mudflats and in everyday life!



**October 28th 2015**

### **Big Buddy-Little Buddy Scavenger Hunt**

Big Buddies in Ms. Morris's class led a scavenger hunt with their Little Buddies in Ms. Renard's class. They found all sorts of treasures in the rainforest, from slimy mushrooms, to local birds, to nurse log habitats. After learning all about the brain with Ms. Morris, Big Buddies were in charge of teaching their Little Buddies newly learned facts about the rainforest, and Little Buddies had to determine whether the forest items they found were alive or not - and they did a great job classifying things!



**November 20th 2015**

### **Hibernation and Teddy Bear Hunt**

Ms. Renard's class is learning all about bears and hibernation so during their last Field School session, students got to use their observation skills and search for clues to find hidden Teddy bears all over the school forest. Bears were hidden in nooks and crannies of the forest and under logs - perfect places for bears to hibernate. Back in class, students put their math skills to the test; they measured and arranged the teddy bears from biggest to smallest. Awesome work Ms. Renard's class!



**January 19th 2016**

### **Weather Preparedness 101**

After going outside for weather observations and predictions, students assessed their outdoor preparedness for the day's conditions. They also determined the most important gear required to stay warm and dry in our dynamic weather conditions. Students put their newfound knowledge to the test to outfit their peers for either a west coast rainstorm or a day of freezing cold weather - nice work kindergarten students!

## Ms. Renard's Kindergarten Class



**March 16th 2016**

### **Salmon Cycle**

Students have been learning all about the salmon lifecycle, and today they put their skills to the test to build their own salmon lifecycle in the sand! Some students made drawings while others got super creative and used eelgrass, rocks or sticks – one student even found a salmon-shaped rock!



**May 11th 2016**

### **Intertidal Investigating**

Students went on a road trip to Ukee for a day of intertidaling! After a morning scoping out seaweed, snails and sea glass at Big Beach, students headed over to the Aquarium to get up close and personal with species they are less familiar with, and then got to watch an octopus gobble down its crab lunch! Thanks Ukee Aquarium for having us!



**May 18th 2016**

### **Sunshine on Meares Island**

Students headed to Meares Island Big Tree trail for a day of learning how to navigate trails! Students got to learn from Gisele Martin about the relationship between crows and cougars, as well as barnacle homes. Students also had an awesome reflection period on the most important lesson of the day: Wanachis-Hilth- huu-is, the source of our water. Students traced our town's water... coming from a pipe which leads to Meares Island and the rainforest that they were standing in that very moment!

## Ms. Seibel's Grade 1/2 Class



**October 6th 2015**

### **Beach Seine in the Mudflats**

We went out in the mudflats at the Tofino Sea Kayak docks for some sea creature collections! After a plankton tow, the students checked out the drifters of the sea up close with magnifying glasses and microscopes. Then everyone worked together to pull up a beach seine and investigate the wonders of the eelgrass beds. We found sculpins, perch, jellies and more, and scooped up a massive kelp crab!



**November 6th 2015**

### **Mushrooms!**

Mushroom hunting and rain go best together! Students explored the trails to find a huge diversity of mushrooms – chanterelles, hedgehogs, orange-peel fungus, boletes, club fungi, Cortinarius, Mycenas, and so many more! Once back in class, students practiced making observations and using scientific language while describing mushrooms, made spore prints and tasted some pan-fried winter chanterelles. Yum!



**December 1st 2015**

### **Batty Games**

Bats were this Field School's theme! Ms. Seibel's class has been learning all about our nocturnal flying friends this month, and students got to play a ton of bat-themed games in the school's 'bat cave.' They played an echolocation game to understand the challenges of using this remarkable hunting technique. Then students learned all about bats' lives by simulating roosting, swarming, hunting, hibernating and more batty behaviors!



**February 12th 2016**

### **Science Experiment: Stick and Leaf races**

Which natural item will float faster down a stream? This is the question that student scientists answered. After choosing their items, students created a hypothesis and tested it by dropping items in the stream and timing the transit time from point A to point B. Then class data was put together to draw final conclusions: leaves are faster than sticks...and pinecones were disqualified – because they sink!

## Ms. Seibel's Grade 1/2 Class



### **March 17th 2016** **Sand Experiment!**

Students worked with their buddies in Ms. Michaud's class to do a sand experiment in the sun - after investigating sand from different parts of the beach under a magnifying glass, they tested it for the presence of living organisms like shell fragments. To test this, vinegar was added to the sand; in the presence of living organisms, the vinegar would react with the calcium carbonate in the shell fragments to create bubbles! Students found signs of living organisms in the higher tidal zones but not down close to the water. Nice teamwork, everyone!



### **May 5th 2016** **Echachis with Gisele Martin**

This day was amazing! After a little boat ride to Echachis, students got to hear tons of stories from Gisele, search for whale bones, explore different parts of the forest and get their feet wet in the crystal clear water!



### **May 6th 2016** **Meares Island Big Tree Trail**

More island adventures! This time the boats brought us over to Meares Island. Students got to explore the muddy intertidal zone before the tide covered it up, then hike the trail while learning about salamander eggs, salmon in the rainforest and discover how huge cedar trees can get!