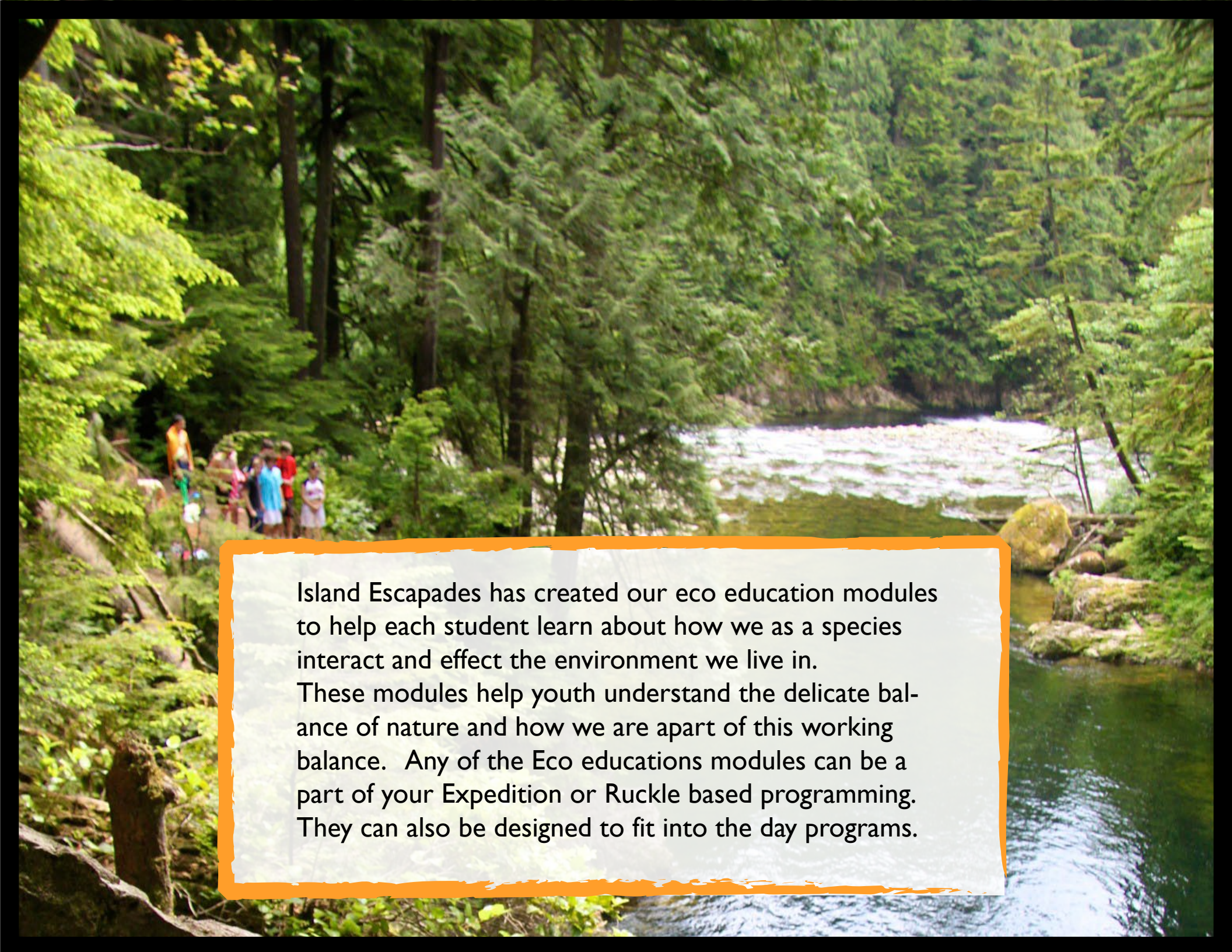




ECO ADVENTURE PROGRAMS





Island Escapades has created our eco education modules to help each student learn about how we as a species interact and effect the environment we live in. These modules help youth understand the delicate balance of nature and how we are apart of this working balance. Any of the Eco educations modules can be a part of your Expedition or Ruckle based programming. They can also be designed to fit into the day programs.



B.C. FOREST ECOLOGY

This program is aimed at teaching forest sustainability. Students will visit a first growth forest on Salt Spring Island Mill Farm between Mt. Bruce and Mt Tuam. They will then be taken to Seven Raven farms where they will be given a tour and talk about forest sustainability and what this means to residents of Salt Spring and British Columbia. Students will also be given information on wwoofing (World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms) opportunities and see first hand what logging does to slope stability and soil erosion.



STREAM ECOLOGY

This program is aimed at teaching students about fresh water ecosystems and how the streams and lakes shift from being full of life to their eventual demise. Students will examine many of the different micro-organisms found in the fresh water ecosystem, while studying with biologists and members of the Cusheon Lake watershed society. Students will examine birds and mammals that reside on the lake including beaver, otter and nutria.



INTERTIDAL STUDIES

Explore the intertidal zone of Salt Spring Island by kayak. Exploring by kayak allows us to get right up along the shoreline where we can view sea stars, sea cucumbers, crabs and many other invertebrates. All of these species are dependent on each other for survival. Human interaction with this ecosystem, if negative, can have grave consequences on the entire ocean. With this program you will not only learn about the intertidal zone you will also learn some of the finer points of sea kayaking.



MARINE MAMMALS

The waters around Salt Spring Island and the Southern Gulf Islands are filled with marine mammals and birds including seals, sea lions, mink, river otters, whales, porpoise, dolphins, seasonal ducks, shore birds and raptors. These Creatures are greatly affected by boats, air traffic and human pollutions. We will examine the behaviour of these mammals and their interactions with other mammals including humans.

LOCAL INDIGENOUS PLANTS

With this program you will walk through a variety of areas on Salt Spring Island, including Mt Maxwell, Menhinnick native reserve and Ruckle Provincial Park .This program is aimed at teaching about the different native plants that are found on Salt Spring Island with many of these species being found throughout the south coast of British Columbia.

FIRST NATIONS HISTORY

In addition to the natural studies we are offering a comprehensive study on the First Nations people who used Salt Spring Island as village sites. In this section students will learn about traditional fishing, hunting, travel, cooking and building. Students will travel by kayak a historic means of transportation for First Nations to a midden beach where they will be shown traditional pit cooking techniques and will have the opportunity to build a ceremonial sweat lodge. While cooking and building students will have an opportunity to use traditional tools as well. Students will visit historic landmarks for the First Nations on Salt Spring..