

Tulalip Lushootseed Family Activity

Walk through Salmon Ceremony

Activity Overview:

Option 1—You will attend a practice held by Tulalip (dx^wlilap) to help better your understanding of why the salmon ceremony (sʔəsq^wuʔ ʔə ti hik^w siʔab yubəč) is = important to the Snohomish people (sduhubš) and what work (syayus) is done to honor the salmon (yubəč).

Option 2 – Hold your own with your family (ʔiišəd) to explore and deepen your understanding of the first ever salmon ceremony (sʔəsq^wuʔ ʔə ti hik^w siʔab yubəč) and why it is important to still complete these traditions.

Illustrations by Elizabeth Starks

The First Salmon Ceremony Unit

Families (ʔiišəd) will discuss why we have a first salmon ceremony (sʔəsq^wuʔ ʔə ti hik^w siʔab yubəč) and prepare to participate in the event.

Lushootseed

t'ilib - *Sing*

dʒubalik^w - *Dance*

təsalik^w - *Drum*

luʔtəd - *Elders*

sduhubš - *Snohomish People*

sʔəsq^wuʔ ʔə ti hik^w siʔab
yubəč

First Salmon Ceremony

dx^wsʔiʔtəhəb - *Fisherman*

g^wəhəliʔtx^w - *Blessing*

šawšaw - *Bones*

syayus - *Work*

Activity Instructions



1. *Sit down* (g^wədil) and talk with your *family* (ʔiišəd) about your any previous knowledge on the *first salmon ceremony* (sʔəsq^wuʔ ʔə ti hik^w siʔab yubəč). Discuss any questions you may have about the *salmon ceremony* (sʔəsq^wuʔ ʔə ti hik^w siʔab yubəč).
2. If attending the scheduled salmon ceremony practice then you are finished and its time to go enjoy the practice, if not now we will go through step by step how the ceremony will be ran.
3. We will first talk about Harriet Shelton dover and Morris dan who helped revive the Tulalip salmon ceremony.

4. Watch “The Tulalip Tribes 1st Salmon Ceremony” and listen to the words and songs shared in the video and the steps they took to honor the *king salmon* (yubəč).



5. First we will bless the *fisherman* (g^wəhəliʔtx^w čəʔ ti dx^wsʔiʔʔdahəb), we will say a basic prayer and *sing* (t'ilib) the *song* (st'ilib) *blessing of the fisherman* (g^wəhəliʔtx^w čəʔ ti dx^wsʔiʔʔdahəb).



6. Next we will now *sing* (t'ilib) *eagle owl blue jay* (st'ilib g^wəʔ Jones ʔiišəd) and *Snohomish war song* (sk^wak^wcəb st'ilib)
7. After you have finished singing all our songs, we will now share a piece of *salmon* (yubəč) with a glass of water like our *ancestors* (yəʔyələbčəʔ).
8. After you all have ate *salmon* (yubəč) together we will return the salmon *bones* (šəwšəw) to the water so the *salmon* (yubəč) will return again.
9. After this ceremony is complete discuss amongst the *family* (ʔiišəd) why it is important for our *people* (sduhubš) to keep doing this ceremony for the *salmon* (yubəč) to return.