

Cruising the Inside Passage: Connecting Coastal Communities

**Teacher's Notes
Grade 2 - 3**



**NORTH WEST
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Cruising the Inside Passage: Connecting Coastal Communities

Grade 2 – 3

Theme

The ocean is British Columbia's largest highway and the major connection for coastal communities. Cruising the Inside Passage explores the connections between British Columbia's geography and transportation routes, industrial and tourism development, settlement patterns and the survival of coastal communities.

Format

By visiting three different stations students will learn about resource based jobs like fishing, logging and tourism. They will discover the connections and impacts that these industries have on the environment and how communities adapt to changing times.

Objectives

- To explore the geography of coastal British Columbia
- To identify three significant coastal communities
- To introduce industries that support the communities
- To explore what makes a successful community

Learning Outcomes (IRP connections)

- Explain how the geography of British Columbia's coast has been significant in community development
- Understand the links between transportation and community development
- Describe the types of jobs that coastal communities provide
- Describe ways in which communities are interdependent
- Describe way in which communities are adapting and moving towards sustainability

Pre-visit Activities

1. Introduce your students to the aspects of a successful community.
2. Review nautical terms with your students (see attached).
3. Introduce your students to the Inside Passage and the location of some key coastal communities (Vancouver, Steveston, Nanaimo, Victoria, Prince Rupert).
4. Have you students make thematic nametags for the program.

Post Visit Activities

1. Have students create a story with words or pictures (or both) about a community on board a cruise ship, fishing boat or cargo ship.
2. Have students make a map of a cruise ship passage from Vancouver to Alaska. The cruise ship stops at or goes by the following places:
 - Vancouver (Port of Call – ship stops here)
 - Nanaimo
 - Powell River
 - Campbell River
 - Port Hardy
 - Sointula
 - Skidegate
 - Prince Rupert
 - Ketchikan (Alaska - Port of Call – ship stops here)
 - Juneau (Alaska - Port of Call – ship stops here)
 - Skagway (Alaska - Port of Call – ship stops here)

About the Inside Passage

The Inside Passage is the protected waterway between the mainland of BC and the outer islands. The passage covers approximately 1600 km from Puget Sound (Washington state) to Skagway, Alaska, passing through Georgia Strait, Queen Charlotte Sound and Hecate Strait. The Passage was first charted (mapped) by Captain George Vancouver in the 1790's and has since become a water highway connecting the isolated coastal communities through regular passenger and freight service by the Union Steamships (1889 – 1959), CPR (BC Coast Steamship Service), Grand Trunk Pacific Steamship Company (founded in 1910 and became part of Canadian National Railway systems after World War I) and BC Ferry service (1958 to present) as well as by commercial ships.

The coastal communities have historically relied on resource-based industries such as forestry, fishing and mining. Some of these communities have successfully diversified, becoming active in tourism or a transportation hub. Three of BC's coastal communities are important international ports. Prince Rupert's port exports primarily grain and coal to Asia. BC's other major ports include Victoria and Vancouver (the centre for the Alaskan Cruise ship business, in addition to importing and exporting goods and raw materials all over the world).

Nautical Terms

Anchor	a heavy metal hook that grips the seabed to hold boat in place
Aft	at or in the direction of the stern
Barge	a flat bottom boat that is towed or pushed by tug boats
Bow	the front of a boat
Bridge	a raised deck where the steering wheel is located
Cleat	a two horned object to fasten ropes from a vessel to a dock
Deck	the floors of a boat
Deckhouse	a cabin or other compartment built on the deck of a ship
Dogs	nickname for the steel teeth on the front of log barges
Fender	large bumpers hung over the side of a boat to keep it from bumping into the dock
Forward	at or in the direction of the bow
Gangway	steps used for boarding a boat
Gillnet	a fishing net designed to catch fish by their gills
Hull	the body of a boat
Longline	a long fishing line with a series of hooks attached to it
Mast	a tall pole that supports sails and other equipment
Port	the left side of a boat; also a harbour
Purse seine	a fishing net with lines that pull together at the bottom
Porthole	a round window in the side of a boat
Propeller	makes the boat move
Rudder	steers the boat
Starboard	the right side of a boat
Stern	the back end of a boat
Trawl net	a cone shaped net towed behind the fishing boat

References

Jensen, Vickie. 1995 Saltwater Women at Work. Vancouver, B.C.: Douglas & McIntyre.

This book is a collection of short personal stories and anecdotes from 110 women who worked the waters of B.C.'s coast. They worked on tugs, barges, ferries, water taxis and patrol boats. They fished on trollers, gill-netters, and seiners. The women are between 8 and 97 years old, and their stories, told in their own words, can be funny, gripping, unapologetic, but always courageous.

Turner, Robert D. 1977. Pacific Princesses: An Illustrated History of Canadian Pacific Railway's Princess Fleet on the Northwest Coast. Victoria, B.C.: Sono Nis Press.

CPR's Princess fleet is most famous for the luxury coastal liners that sailed between Vancouver and Alaska. But the fleet was also one of the largest collection of coastal freighters, tugs and riverboats of the lower Fraser River. This is a well-illustrated history of coastal transportation on B.C.'s coast

Turner, Robert D. 2001. Those Beautiful Coastal Liners: The Canadian Pacific's Princesses. Victoria, B.C.: Sono Nis Press.

This 'coffee-table' history of the Princess fleet is well illustrated with photographs, some full page and some in colour for the later ships. This is an anecdotal history of the British Columbia Coast Steamship Service.

Twigg, Art. 1997. Union Steamships Remembered 1920 - 1958. Campbell River: A.M. Twigg.

While the CPR's Princess fleet was calling in at the major ports on B.C.'s coast, it was the Union Steamships that supplied passenger and cargo services to the smaller and more remote communities. This 427 page volume is a comprehensive account of the ships that made up the fleet, and the personnel that made it possible.

Henry, Tom. 1994. The Good Company: An Affectionate History of the Union Steamships. Madeira Park, B.C.: Harbour Publishing.

The Union Steamships are often referred to as the lifeline for the many small and remote communities of the B.C. coast. This book includes stories and anecdotes of captains and crew and provides a people's history of coastal transportation.

White, Howard. Ed. Raincoast Chronicles. Madeira Park, B.C.: Harbour Publishing.

These 18 volumes, published between 1978 and 1998, are a collection of 'stories and history of the British Columbia Coast'. A great resource for local histories and personal narratives. Earlier editions include poetry, fiction, and book reviews.

Sattefield, Archie. 1992. West Coast workboats: an illustrated guide to work vessels from Bristol Bay to San Diego. Illustrated by Walt Crowley. Seattle: Sasquatch Books.

Snively, Gloria. et.al. 1986. Vancouver Bays and Harbours a teachers' guide. Vancouver: Western Education Development Group. University of British Columbia.

Davies, Beverly. et.al. 1985. It's Everybody's Port Vancouver Bays and Harbours. Vancouver: Western Education Development Group. University of British Columbia.

Internet Resources

<http://www.northshorewaterfront.org/index.htm> - Northshore Waterfront Assoc.

<http://www.rupert.bc.ca/> - Prince Rupert, BC

<http://www.tourismprincerupert.com/welcome.htm> - Prince Rupert, BC

<http://www.tourismrichmond.com/page.cfm/135> - Steveston

<http://www.alaskacruises.org/32.cfm> - North West Cruiseship Association

<http://www.bcmarine.org/directory.html> - BC Marine

<http://www.chamber-of-shipping.com/index.html> - Chamber of Shipping

<http://www.portvancouver.com/> - Port of Vancouver

<http://www.seaspan.com/> - Seaspan

<http://www.tugboats.com/>

<http://www.vmm.bc.ca/> - Vancouver Maritime Museum