

Check Out Kingston:

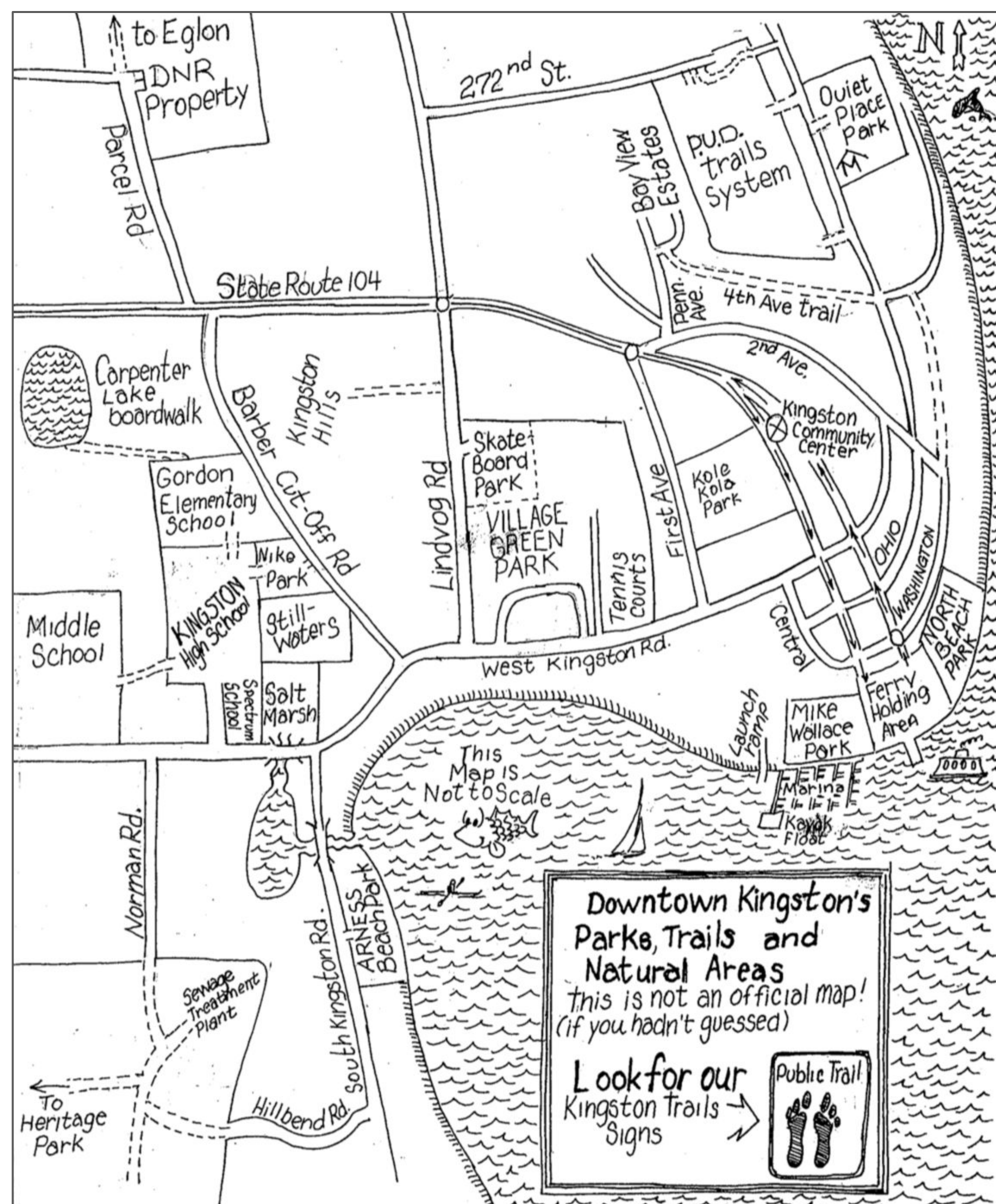
Exploration Kits on the Kitsap Peninsula

The challenge:

- How can the library urge people to explore the natural world around the Kingston community while utilizing library resources?
- Initial partnering organizations:
 - Kitsap Regional Library - Kingston location
 - Wild Society wilderness education nonprofit

The approach:

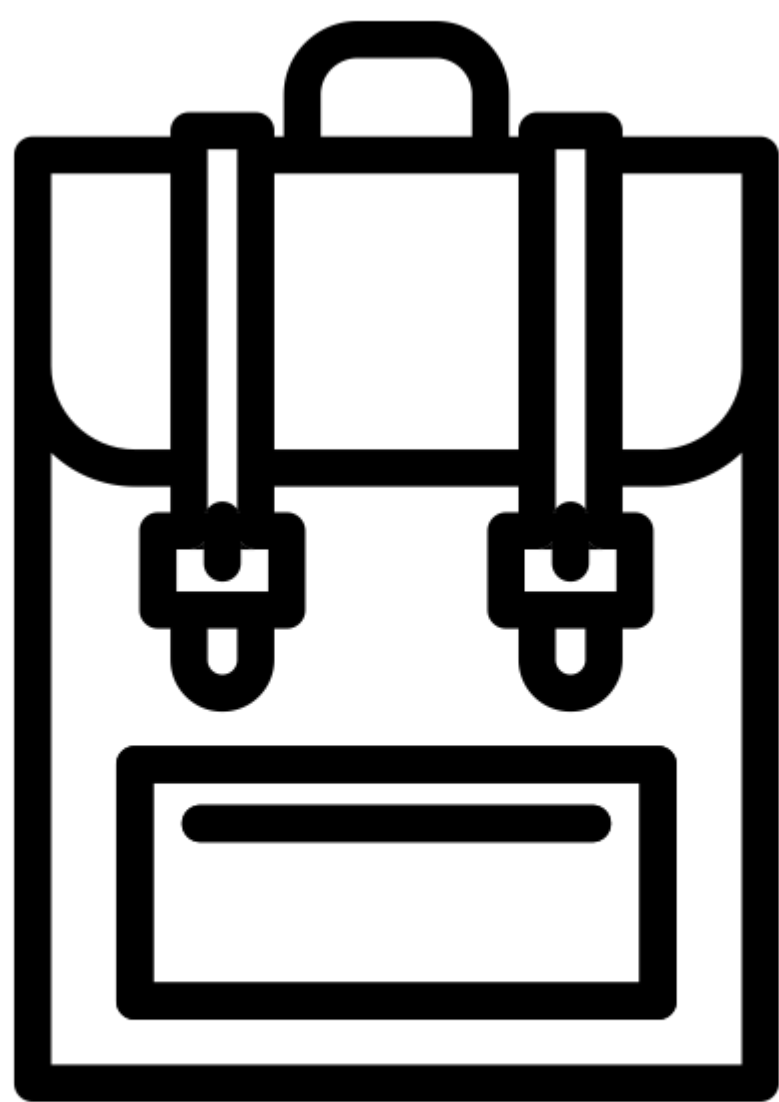
- Collaborated with additional community partners:
 - Kingston Parks, Trails, and Open Spaces Committee
 - Kingston Historical Society
 - Village Green Community Center
 - Kingston Chamber of Commerce
- Developed backpack kit with exploration tools:
 - Map of interesting natural and historic sites
 - QR codes on signs of relevant historic locations
 - Scavenger hunt activities, eg. naturalist bingo
 - Bookmarks with reading lists for further exploration



Map created by Walt Elliot.

Deliverables:

- Exploration Kit Backpacks circulated by Village Green Community Center



Icon created by Garrett Knoll from the Noun Project.

- Bookmarks of Related Reading Lists

The Curious Nature Guide
Clare Walker Leslie (2015)

The Kids' Guide to Nature Adventures
Joe Rhatigan (2003)

By The Shore
Nancy Blakey (2018)

Kingston: Images of America
Kingston Historical Society (2019)

Kitsap County: A History
Kitsap County Historical Society (2012)

Best Hikes with Kids in Western Washington & the Cascades
Joan Burton (2006)

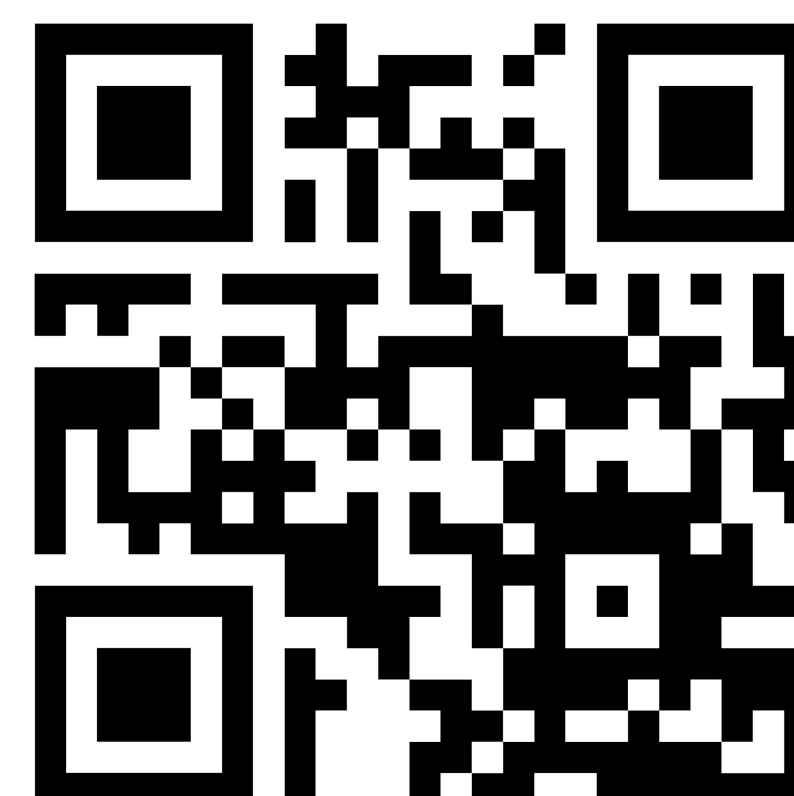
Wild Tracks!
Jim Arnosky (2008)

Wildflowers of the Pacific Northwest
Mark Turner & Phyllis Gustafson (2006)

Native Trees of Western Washington
Kevin Zobrist (2014)

Wildlife of the Pacific Northwest
David Moskowit (2010)

- QR Codes on Park and Business Signs for Further Information



Impact:

- Strengthened partnership between the KRL - Kingston location and the Wild Society
- Introduced residents and visitors to breadth of library resources and engages patrons
- Encouraged residents and visitors to explore natural areas around Kingston
- Prompted visits to local businesses on historical tour

Potential next steps:

- Launch program during Port of Kingston's Centennial
- Use kits in outreach programs with Urban Trails program, Boys & Girls Club, and Stillwaters Environmental Center
- Assemble more exploration kits if circulation warrants it
- Build a mobile app to guide the Kingston tour
- Develop similar exploration kits touring sites around other library neighborhoods