



## Tulalip Charitable Contributions Funds Distribution Report

**NAME OF AGENCY:** Snohomish County ECHOS

**ADDRESS:** 3000 Rockefeller Ave., Everett, WA 98201

**CONTACT:** (425) 388-7200; <http://www.snoco.org>

**GENERAL GOALS:** ECHOS uses sensory materials and comprehensive lesson plans to teach young children the principles of natural science and how people, animals and the natural environment interact. Children learn skills such as critical thinking, observation, describing, predicting, experimenting and drawing conclusions.

**SPECIFIC USE FOR THIS AWARD:**

With this ground-breaking curriculum, children are learning about the natural world and their own role in that world. Classrooms have become little research centers, where both teachers and students are enthusiastic about discovery and working together to understand life sciences. We believe that a fun, engaging science curriculum is helping our students grow up to be good stewards of sustainable communities.

For more information see the attached pages from Snohomish County ECHOS.



**Snohomish County**  
**Human Services**

**John Lovick**  
County Executive

(425) 388-7200  
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M/S #305  
3000 Rockefeller Ave.  
Everett, WA 98201-4046

June 18, 2015

Ms. Marilyn Sheldon  
Charitable Contributions Administrator  
Tulalip Tribes Charitable Funds  
8802 27<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE  
Tulalip, WA 98271

RE: Early Childhood Hands-On Science (ECHOS) 2014-2015 Follow-Up Report

Dear Ms. Sheldon:

We want to express our gratitude to the Tulalip Tribes for its generous donation toward the purchase of the Early Childhood Hands-On Science (ECHOS) kits for our Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP).

With this ground-breaking curriculum, children are learning about the natural world and their own role in that world. Classrooms have become little research centers, where both teachers and students are enthusiastic about discovery and working together to understand life sciences. We believe that a fun, engaging science curriculum is helping our students grow up to be good stewards of sustainable communities.

Enclosed is our *Early Childhood Hands-On Science (ECHOS) 2014-2015 Follow-Up Report*. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions. Thank you for your investment in the lives of children.

Sincerely,

Joe Varano  
Early Learning Division Manager  
Snohomish County Human Services Department

Enclosures (1)  
JPV: lbs

In 2014, Tulalip Tribes generously awarded Snohomish County a grant to purchase five Early Childhood Hands-On Science (ECHOS) curriculum sets from the internationally recognized Patricia and Philip Frost Museum of Science. ECHOS uses sensory materials and comprehensive lesson plans to teach young children the principles of natural science and how people, animals and the natural environment interact. Children learn skills such as critical thinking, observation, describing, predicting, experimenting and drawing conclusions.

ECEAP students participated in fun, engaging activities like *Rainy Weather*, *Beginning Botanist*, *Feathered Friends*, *Busy Buzzing Bees*, *Discovering Shells*, *Blocks Measure Up*, *Water Play*, *Astonishing Air* and *Magnificent Magnets*. Units are introduced in order of complexity. Guided, week-long lessons allowed teachers to blend direct instruction with opportunities for children to inquire and explore their own processes and results. For example, children built science areas in classrooms, performed experiments with natural elements like air or water, sorted and measured, spent time outside observing and documenting weather patterns, and watched plants grow.

Here is what ECEAP Teachers are saying about ECHOS:

“What I noticed is that when I used the questions that ECHOS provides in their structured discussions it really got the children thinking, and not only about the rain but about all things in general. They are asking more questions and noticing more things...I think what worked so well is that ECHOS gives us structure, but also allows us to use our own ideas and use the curriculum as a springboard.”

“Children connect these experiences and to their daily lives. I see their excitement as they grow and become little scientists.”

“With the introduction of ECHOS, the science/discovery centers will no longer be the least-used part of the preschool classroom!”



Measuring and sorting



Cloud-watching



Making predictions



How air works



Science Areas

