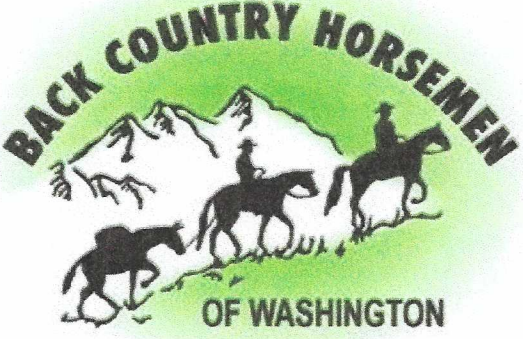


Junior BCHW Program Curriculum Standards

Module	Legislative Opportunities
Expectations	Junior BCHW members should understand the legislative process and the purpose and methods of impacting and advocating for legislation as well as articulate a position that is consistent with the BCHW/BCHA mission on a legislative issue that could or does impact Back Country Horsemen.
Learning Concepts	Juniors will learn the legislative process, advocacy, difference between branches of government and levels of government (state, federal, etc.). The depth of learning and complexity of skills demonstrated will vary by Chapter as each is independently responsible to implement learning taking into consideration participant skill levels, personalities, age/development levels, prior knowledge, and prior experience.
Skills Demonstrated	Juniors will be able to track the process a bill follows to become a law, discuss potential impacts of legislation, and advocate with facts and logic regarding that impact relative to Back Country Horsemen. Juniors can participate in Legislative Day with BCHW where they are encouraged to advocate for or against legislation articulating positions consistent with BCHW/BCHA's mission.
Foundational Elements	
Safety	Juniors are not likely to learn any safety skill or information in this module; however, it is possible that bills/legislation may deal with safety (for example, educational requirements, gear expectations, etc.), which would have a safety impact.
Service	Juniors can highlight the service hours invested by BCHW volunteers to assist government, as well as serve their communities, by being better informed about the process. Juniors will use facts and information to support a position, which is a skill that can be transferred to many other areas of life and is a great life-learning skill.
Horsemanship	No specific horsemanship skills will be taught or learned in this module. Juniors will become familiar with the impact that volunteer time can have in assisting legislation. The horsemanship skills they learn and use on the trails will help them realize the value of the BCHW mission to advocate keeping our trails open.
Core Understanding	
<p>Junior BCHW members will learn the process of how legislation is created, how public members can impact that process, and how to advocate with relevant information and facts.</p>	

Junior BCHW Program Curriculum Suggestions

Legislative Opportunities ~

Some resources/suggestions to assist with the topic*:

*Washington State Legislative Civic Education Page: Civic Education (wa.gov) provides resources for families, students and teachers including a virtual tour of the Capitol, age-appropriate materials, includes written and video resources, connecting with Legislators like "10 Activities for Legislators in the Classroom" .pdf (wa.gov)

*Washington Legislative page with ways to connect with Legislators, and activities

*Watch Schoolhouse Rock's "I'm Just a Bill on Capitol Hill" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OgVKvqTlto>

*collaborate with BCHW Legislative Chair to understand what issues, bills and topics are current and have kids research and prepare for conversation(s) with legislators, etc. - see legislative page of BCHW (BCHW.org, click on Resources, then Legislative) https://www.bchw.org/legislative_information_1.php

*create a bill tracking board so Juniors can check bill as it progresses (or not) through the process they are learning

*explore local options for advocacy/lobbying - when legislators are at home (maybe even outside of legislative session), collaborating with other civic groups, etc.

*explore traditional and non-traditional methods of lobbying - letter writing which includes proper method of salutation, addressing as well as content of letter; letters to the editor, candidate support/forums

*discuss limitations a non-profit may have on lobbying and the specific limitations for BCHW

*As a potential sample and source of support of BCHW/BCHA positions, review The Wilderness Act of 1964 <https://wilderness.net/learn-about-wilderness/key-laws/wilderness-act/default.php>

*Kids in the House - Office of the Clerk, U.S. House of Representatives - US House resource page with age-appropriate information about the federal legislature <https://kids-clerk.house.gov/>

*some links may need to be copied and pasted into your browser