



curriculum links

Grade 4:

- Science and Technology
*Understanding Life Systems:
Habitats and Communities*



overview

In this activity students will discover how a watershed works and how human activities impact the health of a watershed.

grade 4 expectations

Understanding Life Systems Habitats and Communities

Overall Expectations

- ◆ Analyse the effects of human activities on habitats and communities;
- ◆ Investigate the interdependence of plants and animals within specific habitats and communities;
- ◆ Demonstrate an understanding of habitats and communities and the relationship among the plants and animals that live in them.

Specific Expectations

Relating Science and Technology to Society and the Environment

- ◆ Analyse the positive and negative impacts of human interactions with natural habitats and communities taking different perspectives into account, and evaluate ways of minimizing impacts.
- ◆ Identify reasons for the depletion or extinction of a plant or animal species, evaluate the impacts on the rest of the natural community, and propose possible actions for preventing such depletions or extinctions from happening.

Developing Investigation and Communication Skills

- ◆ Use scientific inquiry/research skills to investigate ways in which plants and animals in a community depend on features of their habitat to meet important needs (healthy characteristics of a watershed).

Understanding Basic Concepts



Wacky Watersheds



- Demonstrate an understanding of habitats as areas that provide plants and animals with the necessities of life.
- Demonstrate an understanding of why all habitats have limits to the number of plants and animals they can support.

Key Terms

Watershed – An area of land that drains water into a single body of water

Contaminants – the introduction of harmful products or substances into the environment

Pesticides - a chemical used to kill pests, especially insects

