

Water is Life

Grade 8 Inquiry Project

How do our actions impact the environment and our worldview?

Key Understandings: Water is not only a resource, it is a life source. We all share the responsibility to ensure a healthy, secure and sustainable water supply for our communities, environment, and economy – our quality of life depends on it. (Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development)

Inquiry Questions:

- ***what happens when towns upstream pollute the water downstream - whose problem is that?***
- ***In what ways can you affect water quality where you live, both positively and negatively?***
- ***What determines a healthy or unhealthy water habitat?***
- ***How is the sustainability of water resources determined?***
- ***How does water impact our worldview?***
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Your written answers to each Inquiry Question should be approximately one page in length! Each question should synthesize all the information you have gathered throughout this topic... see the process:

Assignment:

Answer the above inquiry questions and then make a documentary movie on: “Water is Life”

In this documentary include all the information you now know about water: The Aztecs, Japan, Ethiopia, The Ghost Watershed, The South Saskatchewan Watershed, Water quality Testing, Density, Buoyancy..... etc. “pull it all together”

1. ***Process:***

- a) Research and gain insight and information on our local water system:
 - Cochrane Water Treatment Plan - where does our drinking water come from?
 - Banff and Canmore Water Quality - what is upstream?

- Banff Sewage treatment Plant - what is upstream?
- Water Quality of "Big Hill Springs Creek" (Ranche)
- Agriculture and water management surrounding Cochrane
- Ghost watershed

b) **Research and gain insight on Global Water:**

- **The Aztecs and water: how did water affect their worldview? Be specific!**
- **Japan and water: how did water affect their worldview? Be specific!**

c) **Water Quality Testing: what do the tests actually measure? How do they indicate a healthy or unhealthy water system?**

d) **How does Flow Rate, Density and Buoyancy relate to water?**

2. Use a graphic organizer to organize all your information and notes about water
3. Using the information in your graphic organizer, Answer the inquiry questions (Each Inquiry Question should be approximately one page in length! Each question should synthesize all the information you have gathered throughout this topic).
4. Collect images, video clips, photos, "live interviews" throughout this project and store in a file in a Dropbox or a file on your documents or on google docs..(remember to always back up your researched information).
5. Using your notes, graphic organizer and inquiry answers, prepare a documentary movie on "water is life". Make sure you use a story board to properly plan your documentary.

You must submit the following all together in a package:

- Title page: Name of assignment, date, teachers name and your name
- Jot notes from your research (Social, Science, LA, etc.)
- Graphic Organizer
- Answers to the inquiry Questions

- Story Board
- Documentary movie
- Bibliography