The Water Around Us

Program Overview
In our The Water Around Us program, elementary students (grades K-2) will investigate the guiding question, “Why is water important for life on earth?”, from a variety of perspectives. The core lessons in this program provide students the opportunity to explore the wonders of the watery world that surrounds them through stories, dance, building, bubbles, and more!

Program Outline:
- What is Water?
- Getting to Know Our Watershed
- Wild Adaptation
- We are Water Protectors

Program Goals
1. Students will build their relationship with water through hands-on, place-based activities and personal reflection.
2. Students will build their relationship with nearby nature through free and guided exploration.
3. Students will understand that healthy water is essential for life on earth, and take meaningful action to protect water sources near them.

Standards Connections
The Water Around Us supports learning and engagement in the following Next Generation Science Standards Disciplinary Core Ideas:
- LS1.A - Structure and Function
- LS1.C - Organization for Matter and Energy Flow in Organisms
- LS2.A - Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems
- ESS2.C - The Roles of Water in Earth’s Surface Processes
- ESS3.A - Natural Resources
- ESS3.C - Human Impacts on Earth Systems

The Watershed Project’s mission is to inspire Bay Area communities to understand, appreciate, and protect our local watersheds.

If you have any questions about this program, please contact us at: education@thewatershedproject.org

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This program also incorporates concepts from the following K-2 Common Core English Learning Language and History/Social Studies Standards:

- With prompting and support, ask and answer questions about key details in a text.
- With prompting and support, describe the relationship between illustrations and the story in which they appear (e.g., what moment in a story an illustration depicts).
- Actively engage in group reading activities with purpose and understanding.
- With prompting and support, ask and answer questions about unknown words in a text.
- With prompting and support, describe the relationship between illustrations and the text in which they appear (e.g., what person, place, thing, or idea in the text an illustration depicts).
- Actively engage in group reading activities with purpose and understanding.
- With guidance and support from adults, recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.
- Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about kindergarten topics and texts with peers and adults in small and larger groups.
  - a. Follow agreed-upon rules for discussions (e.g., listening to others and taking turns speaking about the topics and texts under discussion).
  - b. Continue a conversation through multiple exchanges.

The program also incorporates concepts from the following K-2 Common Core Health Standards:

- Explain that living things grow and mature.
- Name and describe the five senses.
- Identify practices that are good for the environment, such as turning off lights and water, recycling, and picking up trash.
- Discuss how individual behavior affects the environment and community.

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