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 lessons in this program provide students the opportunity to explore the wonders of the watery world that surrounds them through dance, games, stories and more!

Program Outline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lesson Name</th>
<th>Guiding Question</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Water Bodies</td>
<td>How does water interact with me and with the land?</td>
<td>Students will engage their five senses to explore how water interacts with our external and internal bodies to gain foundational understanding of how water moves over land. Then explore some of the bodies of water found here in the Bay Area.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Water Around the World</td>
<td>How does water move around the world?</td>
<td>Students will kinesthetically learn about the water cycle, and the different states of matter water takes as it moves through the water cycle.</td>
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<td>3. Wondrous Water Exploration or Field Trip (Optional)</td>
<td>Who do we share water with?</td>
<td>Students will kinesthetically engage in gratitude, exploration, and games to understand that, through the water cycle, water is shared with plants and animals around the world.</td>
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<td>4. We are Water Protectors</td>
<td>Why is water important for life on Earth?</td>
<td>Students will conduct a hands-on stewardship initiative by creating seed spheres to spread native plant seeds near their school or home. This action helps students understand that without water, neither the plants, nor the animals that depend on them would thrive on this planet.</td>
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*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

The Water Around Us

Program Goals

1. Students will build their relationship with water through hands-on, place-based activities.
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 enhance their connection with their local ecosystem.

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 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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