



MAKING A SPLASH

Teacher Guide

Part 1: Activation

1. As a class, brainstorm all the ways we use water now and how humans used water in the past.
2. Write about a time you interacted with water. What were you doing? Where were you? Who were you with? When was it? Why were you there?
3. Work with watercolors to paint a scene to go with your memory of water.
4. Create a classroom library with picture books about water. Read one a day for a week and vote for the class favorite.
5. Build a list of water-related vocabulary. Use it to write a poem about water.

Part 2: Acquiring

A note about inquiry projects: A good inquiry project starts with a good question. Students need to consider both sides of the question before they reach a conclusion. To support their choice, they need to provide evidence. Teachers can frontload knowledge through articles, videos, books, class discussion and guest speakers.

Provide a journal or “think-book” for students to record their thinking. A ranking scale allows them to show how their thinking has changed and explain why.

Water has
impacted humans

Humans have
impacted water

1. Introduce the inquiry question: What has had a greater impact, water on humans or humans on water?
2. Using a scale, ask students to identify which side they are on initially. Let them know that their thinking may change as they learn more, and that’s okay! It means they are thinking critically about the question. Remind them to record what has made their thinking change.
3. Students will make a T-chart. One column is titled “How water impacts humans.” The other column is titled “How humans impact water.” They will add to the chart with their ideas as new information is shared.
4. Additional resources have been included at the end of this guide. These can be shared with the whole class, or students can watch them independently. They can record their thoughts on the T-chart.

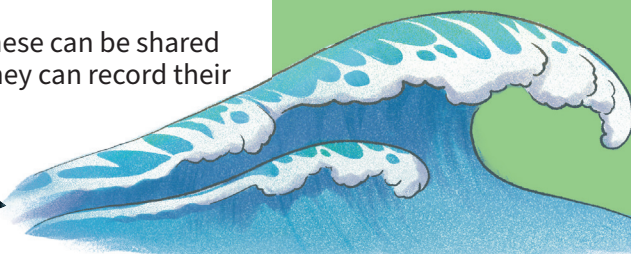


About this guide

Making a Splash: How Humans Consume, Control and Care for Water is a nonfiction book for readers ages 9–12. The author, Colleen Nelson, is a middle-school social studies teacher and has prepared this teacher guide. The book and the lessons stem from work she has done with her classes in a co-curricular science, social studies and language arts inquiry project, planned and executed with her teacher partner, Alex McGavin.



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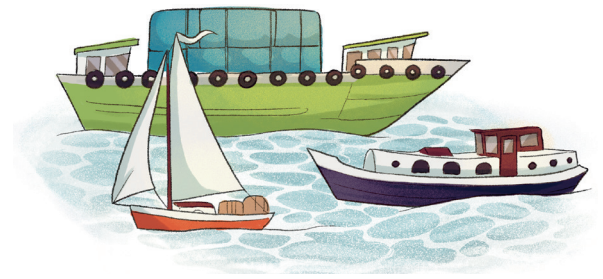


Part 3: Apply

You work at a museum. Your next exhibit is on water and civilization. Your boss, the curator, can't decide if you should name the exhibit "How Humans Have Impacted Water" or "How Water Has Impacted Humans."

The curator has asked you to prepare a presentation to help her decide. Using your T-chart and resources shown in class, explain whether you think the exhibition should be titled "How Humans Have Impacted Water" or "How Water Has Impacted Humans" and why.

You can choose the most effective way to make your presentation. Some suggestions are a tour on Google Earth, a short story, a Padlet timeline or a Canva slide show.



Part 4: Assessment

Water Systems Inquiry Assessment Requirements

Content

- Information is accurate and complete.
- Information is from a reliable source and reflects what has been discussed in class.

Presentation

- Effort has been put into the presentation. It is neat and well-organized.
- All requirements have been met.

Critical Thinking

- Support is rational and realistic.
- Evidence of consideration of multiple viewpoints.

Additional Resources

BBC.com: Climate Change impacting hurricanes

BTN.com: Global Water Crisis-Behind the News

CBC News: Hurricane Helene caused 'post-apocalyptic scene' in North Carolina

Climate.nasa.gov: Global Temperature Anomalies from 1880 to 2019

Inspire Education: Why was the Nile so important?

NatGeo.com: Climate Change 101 with Bill Nye

TedEd: Building the world's largest (and most controversial) power plant

TedEd: How the Suez Canal changed the world

TedEd: 5 TedEd Lessons about Water

YouTube.com: Aimee Craft: What is the meaning of water to Indigenous communities in Manitoba

YouTube.com: Al Jazeera News Bangladesh: Climate change creates a new migration crisis

YouTube.com: Aljazeera News: Driven out by drought: Farmland turns barren in Somalia

YouTube.com: Unicef Unsafe water, hygiene and sanitation kills 1000 children under 5 every day

YouTube.com: Water Changes Everything

YouTube: What is Blue Space? And why it matters

YouTube.com: 3 seconds...S.A.M.



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