

SNWA Goal 1 Objective 1.4

CCSD Curriculum Essentials Framework

Science

It is expected that students will:

(5)4.8 explain that humans tend to use resources to meet more than their minimal needs for food, shelter, and warmth [NS 16.5.4]

Social Studies

It is expected that students will:

(5)2.9 demonstrate an understanding of supply and demand in a market [NS 3.5.2]

Purpose: This activity is intended to raise awareness of the many ways water is used.

Time: 45 to 50 minutes

You will need:

- 10 to 15 index cards (3x5) for each group
- container or envelope for each group's cards
- pencils

Introduction

1. This activity is similar to a game of charades. Begin by miming to the students several simple activities that demonstrate how water is used (washing dishes, drinking water, swimming). Ask students to describe what you were doing.

Making Discoveries

2. Provide each group with 10 to 15 cards and a container to hold the cards. Each group is to discuss different ways in which water can be used, writing each idea on a different card.
3. Each group chooses 10 of its cards to keep in the container and passes the container on to another group. Each group looks at the new cards passed to them and chooses several of the ideas to act out for the rest of the class to guess.
4. Students make a list of water uses in their notebooks as they watch the charades.

Closing

5. Students refer to their notebook lists to help the teacher make a large class poster of water uses. The list may be extended over time.

It isn't necessary to select winners and losers in this activity. The excitement of acting without words is enough to keep everyone involved.

Extension

1. The teacher should ask, “How could we sort this list into categories?”
The teacher may suggest the categories, “Wants” and “Needs.”
2. Students work in groups to categorize their lists of water uses.
3. Groups share their lists with the whole group and discuss category choices.

Teacher Note:

The activity “Secret Splashes” from the next group of activities in this unit uses an audio tape of water sounds around the valley, and may be used as a follow-up to “Drinking it Up.”

