

WATER WISE YOUTH EDUCATION



What is it?

- Hands-on inquiry based learning about our water resources and how to be a good water steward! Objectives address and list Arizona state standards in math, language arts and science.
- Curriculum for 3-4-5 grades is available for check-out from your school librarian. The program can be adapted for K-8. The Water Basics curriculum tub contains all materials and masters for all lessons. Also included is a large topographical map of the Upper San Pedro Watershed and a smaller tub for a Make a Watershed activity.
- Teachers can also check out these educational models:
 - 1) Ground Water Flow Model - A highly effective interactive simulation for students to see how water moves underground, effects of pumping and how contamination occurs.
 - 2) Water History Trunk - Hands-on discovery of the history of local water use through artifacts and historic photos. Students compare water use and conservation now and in Cochise County in 1897.
 - 3) EnviroScope - This interactive model about water pollution teaches problem solving skills while providing important information about land use activities and groundwater.

How does it apply to my curriculum and annual school goals?

- Water Wise Youth Education (WWYE) provides answers to life's persistent questions regarding how much water is available to us, properties of water, the water cycle, water conservation and quality, water history in Cochise County and what to do about water pollution.
- For example, if your school goal is math skills or problem solving, activities can be provided with these specific skills, while also providing information about water. Special events such as Family Science Afternoons, Math Nights, History Days, Water Conservation Poster/Poetry contests and games foster interaction between parents, students and teachers and have been popular.
- New applications such as School Water Audits and whole class participation in pilot water conservation projects are being tested.
- Teaching students and their families to be good water stewards is an important lesson any time of the year!

Who teaches it?

- Hank Huisking, Instructional Specialist with the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension (458-8278, ext. 2181) e-mail: wwschool@ag.arizona.edu
- Classes are available during school hours from August through May. At the invitation of each classroom teacher, one or more lessons, 45 minutes to 1 hour in length, is taught in your classroom. A series of four classes is usually scheduled, back to back with other grade level teachers in the school, if possible.
- Ask about Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) and GLOBE (Global Learning and Observation to Benefit the Environment) workshops!