

The Wonder of Water On-Site Summary

Grade 2

Every day, in every way, we depend on water. It makes up more than 80% of our total body weight and covers most of the surface of the earth. Water is everywhere; however, not all water is the same. In this activity, students will be introduced to various bodies of water, and will recognize some of the similarities and differences between these bodies of water. Students will use their senses to make observations about their surroundings, and will recognize and begin to analyze various aspects of the Water Cycle.

While at the Elm Fork Education Center (EFEC), students will conduct two tests on each body of water, a chemical test and a physical test. The chemical test will entail the use of Dissolved Oxygen Test Tablets. The physical test will include the use of a Flow Meter. By analyzing the data obtained from these different testing techniques, the students will be able to recognize similarities and differences between the bodies of water that they will interact with at EFEC. The students will write their data in their *Science Journals*, and these journals will then be used to help the students with their further studies during the *post-visit* activity.

TEKS CONNECTIONS:

Science TEKS – Second Grade:

- 2.1 (A) – Students will demonstrate safe practices during field and lab investigations.
- 2.2 (A) – Students will ask questions about organisms, objects, and events.
- 2.2 (D) – Students will gather information using simple equipment and tools to extend the senses.
- 2.10 (A) – The student will describe and illustrate the water cycle.
- 2.10 (B) – The student will identify uses of natural resources.



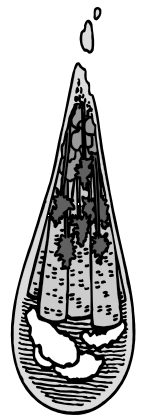
Various bodies of freshwater:

Pond: A pond is a still, shallow, body of water with a muddy bottom. It is usually teeming with plants and a variety of aquatic organisms.

Stream: A stream is a small river. It is a body of fresh flowing water, which comes from an upland source and empties into a pond, lake or the sea. Some streams are fed by fresh water springs.

Waterfall: A waterfall is formed from the sudden descent of a stream or river over a steep drop. A cascading waterfall is one in which there is a small water volume as opposed to a cataract waterfall, which is comprised of a large volume of water descending over a series of rapids.

Wetland: A wetland is a still body of water that has characteristics of both dry land and water. Often, wetlands are transition zones between dry lands and deep bodies of water, at other times, more isolated wetlands are found. For an area to be classified as a wetland it must have saturated soils, water-tolerant plants, and enough water to cover the land to a shallow depth.



Above information adapted from, "The Wonder of Water On-Site Activity," Elm Fork Education Center & Denton ISD, 1998.