Water Uses Activity - on a board activity

Duration of activity: 5 - 10 minutes
Materials: whiteboard/chalkboard, dry erase marker/chalk, students
Number of Students: 10-25
Recommended age: 2nd through 6th grade
Level of Difficulty: ★☆☆☆☆

On the board we will ask children to list out the uses for water (such as drinking, swimming, fishing, bathing, watering, brushing teeth, washing car, etc.)

We'll ask them to raise their hand if they would want to swim in certain polluted bodies with pictures as examples.

We'll then go into how water gets polluted and with what, those would be the next activities.

Find all the pollutants (Spot the 6 differences)

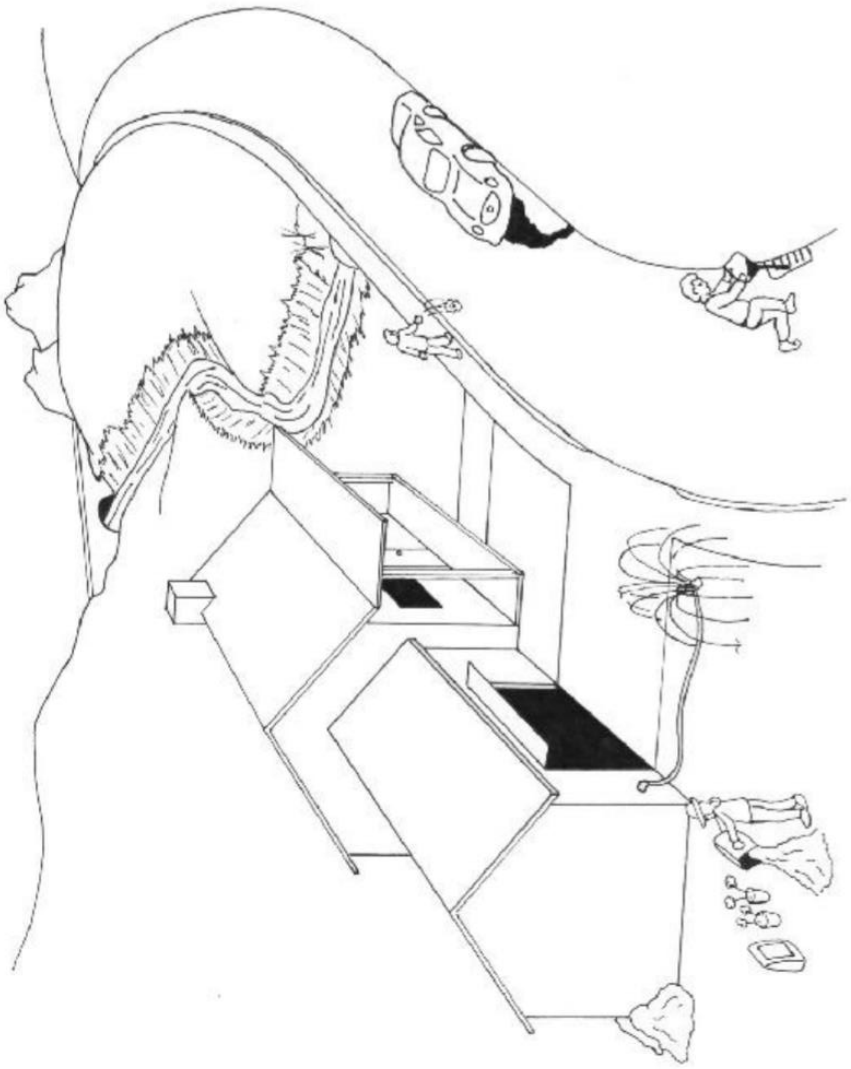
Duration of activity: 5 - 10 minutes

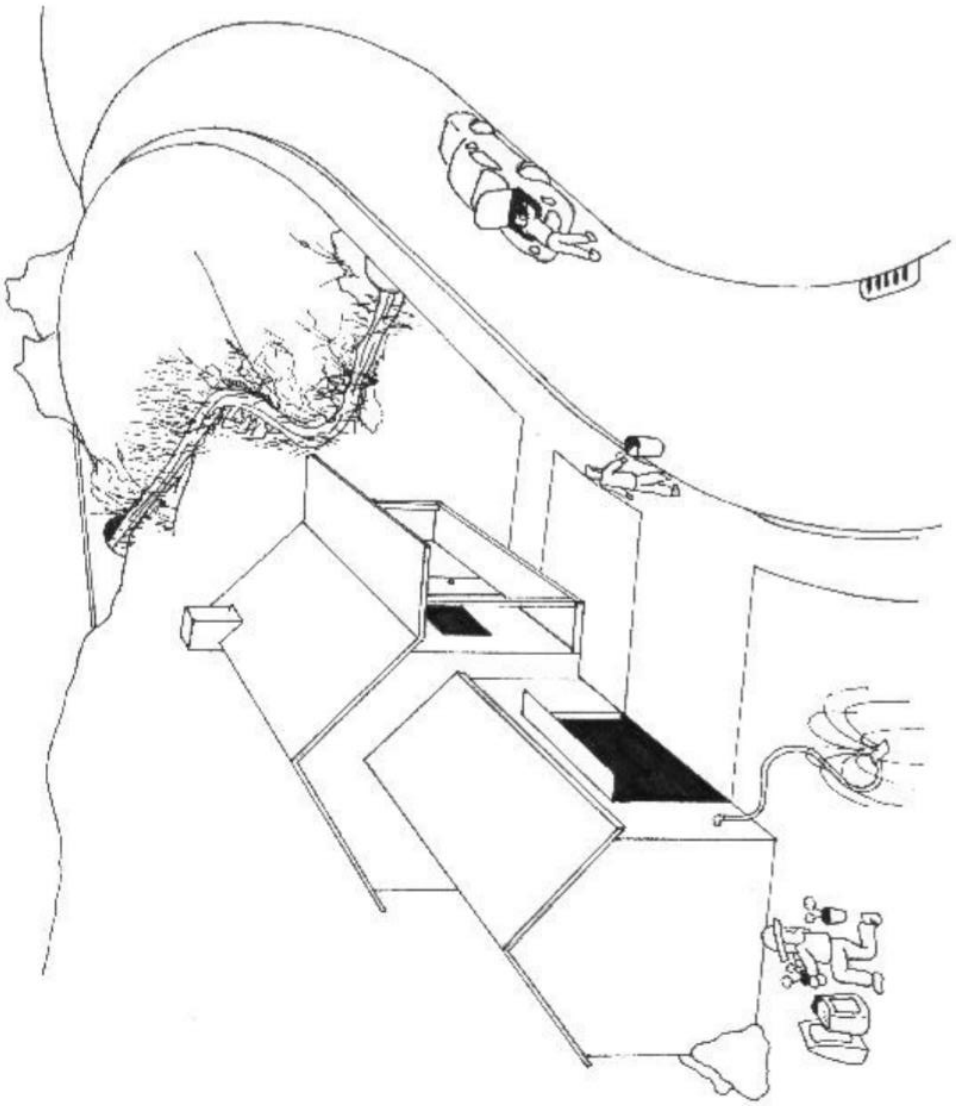
Materials: coloring supplies

Number of Students: individual or group

Recommended age: 2nd through 5th grade

Level of Difficulty: ★☆☆☆☆





Have students, independently or in a group, seek out the differences in the above images.

Reconvene as a class and ask them about the differences they saw. This provides a basis of pollutants that can go down storm drains. Discuss the impacts (oil in ponds can kill aquatic life, etc).

Water Shed

Duration of activity: 10-20 minutes
Materials: Paper, washable markers, spray bottle, water, paper towels
Number of Students: 1-2 per paper
Recommended age: 2nd through 6th grade
Level of Difficulty: ★★★☆☆

1. Take a sheet of paper and crumple it up in your hands.

2. Then open up the paper, but don't flatten it. You want it to have some-some high and low places. The high places are hills/mountains, the low spots are valleys, the wrinkles are streams and rivers.

3. Take one of the blue washable markers, and draw on the paper where you think the streams and rivers would be.

4. Use a brown marker and draw along the tops of the hills/mountains. With a green marker you can draw in trees, grass, crop or pasture land. Use a red marker to draw towns, houses or businesses.

5. Check to see if you are right. Place the paper on a tray or newspapers or towels. With the spray bottle, make it rain in the watershed. Squirt a fine mist over the paper, enough to make the marker run. It shows the water flow down the hills. Did you draw the streams and rivers in the right places? Do

you have a lake? This is how watersheds function, the water is shed by the land into streams, rivers, and lakes.

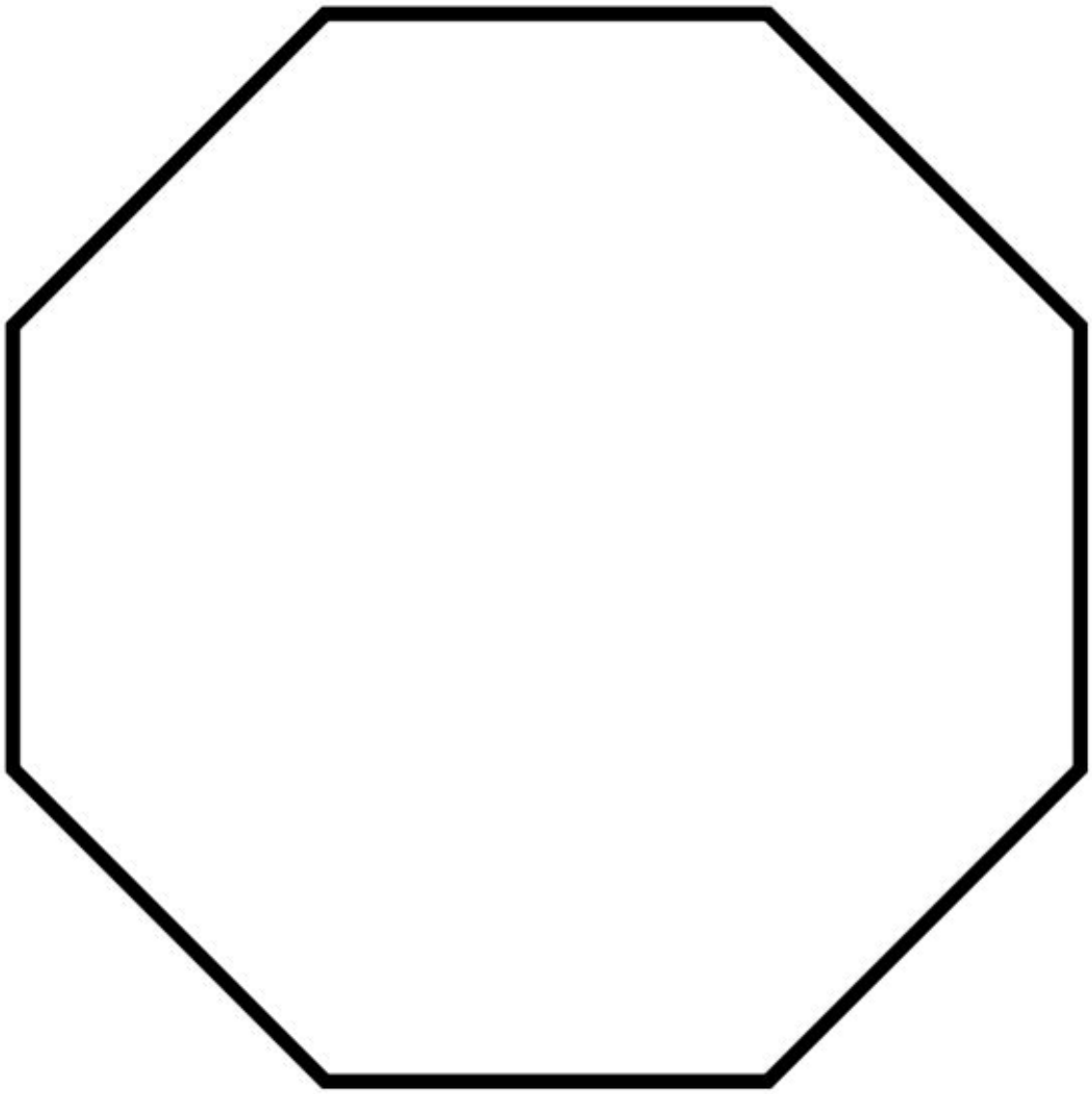
6. But you'll now see a lot of other stuff (colors) running into the streams along with the water. If this were a real watershed, the brown could be dirt from bare soil, the green could be grass clippings or leaves, and the red could be oil from leaky cars or fertilizer someone spilled on a driveway.

"That's what happens when things on the ground are picked up by stormwater runoff, they end up in streams and rivers and moving down the watershed. Can anyone tell me why this is bad?"

Stormwater Sign

Duration of activity: 10-20 minutes
Materials: coloring supplies
Level of Difficulty: ★★☆☆☆

Design your own sign to remind people why they shouldn't dump waste into storm drain.



Show the students a storm drain with a stencil on it:

Now allow them to create their own stencil/sign in the shape above that could be used at a storm drain near their house.

Once everyone is done, they can share their designs to the class.

At this point they have completed their in class activities and will receive their certified "Stormwater Chasers" sticker and "Stormwater Chasers" Activity Book.

Most materials and illustrations originally created by Krista Kuester, Nancy Mesner, and Benjamin Kuhns of Utah State University