

# What's Happening In the Cuyahoga Watershed?

A WebQuest for 5th Grade Science



## Introduction

When you think of the word *shed* what comes to mind? Do you think about the garden shed in Beatrix Potter's book ***The Complete Adventures of Peter Rabbit?*** I do. You know the one with the little gardening tools hanging neatly in a row? Now what comes to mind when you hear the word *watershed*? Is it water running off the roof of the shed? I didn't think so....then what is it?

## Task

Your task is to explore this site along with a few others to identify and define a watershed and explain why it is important to our lives and what you can do to keep it healthy.

**Tasks 1** complete the concept map describing a watershed.

**Task 2** choose two of the 7 seven rivers and compare how they are the same and how they are different using a Venn diagram.

**Task 3** Create a Watershed Handbook. Be sure to include:

- \* What are the natural features of watersheds?
- \* List the different watersheds in NE Ohio and tell which counties they can be found.
- \* Describe 3 different ways that water quality can be effected?

- \* Write friendly letter to a friend describing what you can do to become **involved** in your community in the preservation and maintenance of this watershed.

**Task 4** Protecting the environment is a full-time job for many people. From science lab work to government policymaking, the possibilities are endless in the environmental field. Find out what you might like to do! Describe a career that interests you and explain why this might be something you would like to do in the future.

## Process

Complete attached graphic organizers

Use the following web sites to create your watershed portfolio.

<http://www.wviz.org/edsvcs/water/watershed.htm>

<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/ee/job/index.htm>

## Evaluation

Portfolio: Required Collections

	Ready to share with our "Community of Scientist"	Not quite ready to share. <u>Re-do</u> before sharing.
Required information	Watershed definition Venn Diagram Watershed Handbook Career Friendly letter	Watershed definition Venn Diagram Watershed Handbook Career Friendly letter
Quality of work	for the required Handbook	Still under construction, minimal or flawed information
Effort	Colorful, includes artwork, put together in a logical manner	all or most of the information is there but little effort show in the creating the final project
Career information	There are sufficient facts	Minimal information

## Conclusion

Now that you have completed your Watershed Portfolio, you have a better idea about how you yourself and your family have a direct link to the healthiness of the water we drink. The next time you are tempted to throw something on the ground or help your parents wash the car think about how those actions impact your drinking water.

Here are a few other web sites that you may want to explore to learn more about watersheds.

<http://water.usgs.gov/wsc/links.html>

<http://www.biokids.umich.edu/links/teachers.html>

<http://www.bellmuseum.org/distancelearning/watershed/watershed2.html>

<http://www.k12science.org/curriculum/bucketproj/>

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