

WATER RESOURCE LEADER GUIDE

See the student datasheet with answers attached with this guide

Objectives

Students will:

- A. Describe the importance of riparian areas.
- B. Investigate how stream conditions affect water quality.
- C. Describe how water is protected during forest operations.

General Directions

This station shares time with the Water station, so the time you have with the students on this session is cut in half (usually between 20-30 mins). On a typical day, you will do this station 8 times (2 times per session).

Before the students arrive, familiarize yourself with the station and its resources for teaching. Also, review the attached students datasheets to familiarize yourself with the answers- you will help them complete their workbooks.

When the students arrive, divide them into two groups (half go to Soil and half go to Water). At the halfway point, your group will move from Water to Soil, and the leader at the Soil station will send his/her group to Water.

During your instruction, help them complete the questions on their datasheets.

Sample Lesson (for 25 min session)

Take a walk along the stream

- Use the questions in their student datasheets as a framework for discussion as you walk along the riparian area.
- Facilitate the students observing the riparian area
 - Observe the plants and animals found in the riparian area.
 - Help students understand the importance of riparian areas for protection of water quality and fish habitat.
 - Show students what makes for healthy aquatic habitat for fish and other aquatic animals.
- *Have students complete corresponding questions in their datasheets (see key).*

Use the stream simulator

- Facilitate the students using the stream simulator, creating the conditions listed on the datasheet.
- *Support the students in completing their datasheets as they move through this activity.*