

Life of a Rain Drop

What is a watershed? How does water move through the environment? Where does it start? Where does it end? What does it bring along the way?

Objective

Students will prove their knowledge of watersheds by telling the story of a rain drop starting at their school and ending in the Bay. Students will understand that anything on the street that gets into the water will end up in the Bay.

Preparation

Print Rain Drop Comic strip work sheet. May need extra squares. You may also have students make a 2X4 table on a blank sheet of paper.

Delivery

Review what a watershed is., or complete watershed in your hands lesson. Read, or have students read, directions for the Life of a Raindrop work sheet (The Bay Starts Here part III). Give students time to write their comic strips and share with their group or to the class. Encourage solo work and creativity. The rain drop could take a natural path or an urban path, the raindrop could change phases etc.

Extension: Earth's Systems - create a comic strip that is based on evidence of erosion that you've found in nature. (It doesn't necessarily have to be raining to find evidence of erosion)

Extension: Life sciences - create a comic strip that shows a rain drop whose path goes through an animal or plant.

Debrief

Discuss activity and significance with students. What were the similarities between your stories. Who had something completely different? Why?



Theme

SF Bay Watersheds

Age

4th, 5th and 6th

Duration

30-45 min

Materials

Life of a Raindrop work sheet, writing utensils

Standards

NGSS: 4 ESS2-1; 5 LS2-1; 5 ESS2-1
EP&C's:

Vocab

Watershed: land that water flows over or under to reach a body of water

Storm drain: A drain for urban runoff to move from the streets into larger bodies of water

Point source pollution: pollution resulting from a direct source (pipe, ditch, drain, tunnel well etc.)

Marine debris: manmade solid material that makes it into the marine environment

The Bay Starts Here!

Part III:

1. Create a comic strip of a raindrop using the space below. Imagine that you are a drop of rain falling on the roof of your school. Where would the water go? In each box draw what happens along the journey to the estuary. What might it encounter on its voyage from your school to the estuary? What might it say along the way? Is there anything that may be dangerous to this drop of water? Be creative and have fun!
2. There are many different surfaces that rain water has to travel over or through before it reaches the estuary. Water might travel through dirt, over a side walk and down a rain gutter before it eventually gets to the Bay. On this journey this water might pick up things from the land that may affect the water. List as many things as you can think of that could run off the land and into the water. Use this list to help you develop your comic strip.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Comic Strip Title:
