

Freshwater Tool Kit

SIMPLE SOLUTIONS DISCOVERY

Resource Guide Activities



Grades: 3 – 8

The *Simple Solutions Guide for Great Lakes Health* is a collection of information to provide children and adults with information on the world's and our local water resources and over 50 **easy** steps to protect and conserve water. Below are a few fun activities to do for a group or in the classroom and at home with family members. Each student should be given a copy of the Simple Solutions Guide.

Classroom Activity 1 – Game Show with Teacher/Instructor as Host:

Give the class 15 minutes to review the Guide's content. If you'd like to give them more time they can take the Guide home and review for the game show the following day. Use the Game Show questions to ask teams of students the questions.

Split the class into 3 or 4 teams. Tell them you will ask questions and the teams will have 1 minute to quietly discuss to find the answer. One person from the team must raise their hand to answer the question. The team with the most correct answers wins.

Classroom Activity 2 – Game Show with Competing Teams:

Break the class into groups of 3 or 4 students and place them in different areas around the room. Give each group a Game Show questionnaire and tell them they have 20 minutes to find the answers to questions on world water, local water and water protection. They may know some of the answers from other activities or they can find all the answers in the Simple Solutions Guides. Give them an incentive to complete the questions by offering a prize to the team who has the most correct answers.

To keep the group focused, let them know when 10 minutes and 5 minutes are left. When the time is up have everyone put down their pencils and hand in the sheets to you for correction. You can announce the winner or winners. If needed, you can ask a tie-breaking random question from the Guide to see who answers it correctly the quickest by raising their hand. If you have time you can discuss the correct answers with the class.

At Home Activity – Home Work Activity:

A fun way to share the Guide's knowledge is to have family members look at the Guide as part of a game. Give each student a Simple Solutions Guide and the Game Show questions. Tell the students to review the Guide and take it home to do a game show with at least 2 other family members if possible. The student will be the host of the game show and will ask the players the same questions from the in-class activity. The student should give each player 10 minutes to review the Guide before play. The host can keep score of each player and see who wins at the end. The next day students can share stories on how their game went and the funniest moments.

Freshwater Game Show

TEAM Name: _____

Gather your team mates and find answers to the questions below. When the time's up, we'll check your answers and the team with the most correct answers will win! Here's a clue – you can find all the answers in the *Simple Solutions Guide!*

From the Universe to Your Backyard



1. Why is Earth called the big blue planet? _____
2. What are the 5 large lakes in the northern U.S.? _____
3. Name the 5 Great Lakes:

Great Lakes Names: remember the word HOMES. The 1st letter from the name of each lake makes the word HOMES.

4. Name two things we depend on the Great Lakes for?

Milwaukee:

5. How many rivers flow together out into Lake Michigan? _____
6. Name Milwaukee's 3 rivers? _____
7. What Great Lake is near Milwaukee? _____
8. Name 2 things that Milwaukee is a global leader in. _____

Water & Stormwater:

1. Name 3 things in stormwater? _____
2. Where do Milwaukee's rivers flow? _____
3. Where do we get our drinking water? _____
4. What causes beaches to stink? _____
5. Where is most of the world's freshwater? _____
6. Name 2 ways to reduce stormwater flow: _____

Use Water Wisely:

1. Name 3 easy things you can do to save water: _____

2. True or False: Conserving water conserves energy. _____
3. Why should you wait until after a heavy rain to do laundry or run the dishwasher?

4. How many gallons of water does an average American use a day? _____

Protect Water:

1. What should you never put in sinks or drains? _____
2. How can you reduce plastic in our waterways? _____
3. What's a good way to handle kitchen waste? _____
4. What kind of plants use less water? _____
5. What the best place to wash your family's car? _____
6. What's the best way to keep garbage out of our waterways? _____

Home Game Show:

Who were the contestants:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Who won? _____

What was the funniest thing about the game? _____

Freshwater Game Show – KEY

From the Universe to Your Backyard

1. Why is Earth called the big blue planet? LOTS OF WATER
2. What are the 5 large lakes in the northern U.S.? GREAT LAKES
3. Name the 5 Great Lakes: HURON, ONTARIO, MICHIGAN, ERIE, SUPERIOR
4. Name two things we depend on the Great Lakes for? DRINKING WATER, TRANSPORTATION. IDUSTRY, RECREATION AND TOURISM

Milwaukee:

1. How many rivers flow together out into Lake Michigan? 3
2. What are Milwaukee's 3 rivers? MILWUKEE, MENOMONEE AND KK. The Root River also runs through town in Milwaukee County
3. What Great Lake is near Milwaukee? MICHIGAN
4. Name 2 things that Milwaukee is a global leader in. RESEARCH, TECHNOLOGY AND WATER-FOCUSED BUSINESSES

Water & Stormwater:

1. Name 3 things in stormwater? GARBAGE, PLASTIC, DOG POO, CIGARETTE BUTTS, CHEMICALS, FERTILIZERS, PESTICIDES
2. Where do Milwaukee's rivers flow? INTO LAKE MICHIGAN
3. Where do we get our drinking water? INTO LAKE MICHIGAN
4. Why do Milwaukee's beaches sometimes stink? TOO MANY NUTRIENTS
5. Where is most of the world's freshwater? LOCKED IN ICE
6. Name 2 ways to reduce stormwater flow: INSTALL RAIN BARRELS. RAIN GARDENS, TREES, GREEN ROOFS AND PUMPING UP YOUR SOIL

Use Water Wisely:

1. Name 3 easy things you can do to save water: FIX LEAKS, INSTALL LOW FLOW, DON'T TAKE BATHS, SHORTER SHOWERS, TURN OFF FAUCET WHEN BRUSHING TEEETH, USE A NOZZLE FOR OUTDOOR HOSE,
2. True or False: Conserving water conserves energy. TRUE
3. Why should you wait until after a heavy rain to do laundry or run the dishwasher – REDUCE CHANCE OF SEWER OVERFLOW
4. How many gallons of water does an average American use a day? 150 GALLONS

Protect Water:

1. What should you never put in sinks or drains? MEDICINE, OIL OR CHEMICALS
2. How can you reduce plastic in our waterways? TAKE BAG TO GROCERY STORE
3. What's a good way to handle kitchen waste? COMPOST / MAKE FERTILIZER
4. What kind of plants use less water? NATIVE
5. What the best place to wash your family's car? CAR WASH
6. What's the best way to keep garbage out of our waterways? DON'T LITTER, PICK UP LITTER, KEEP GARBAGE CANS CLOSED