

The Virtual UPSTREAM PROJECT

UPPER DESCHUTES WATERSHED COUNCIL 

Healthy Stream Explorations

Educational Goals and Objectives:

Students will gain an understanding of what a watershed is and how it functions. They will be able to list several healthy stream features and know their importance to the plants and animals that live there. Students will be able to understand the value of intolerant species and their connection to understanding the water quality of a given stream. These activities hope to inspire them to be stewards of the river for many years to come.

Live Session #1: Watershed Wander (30-45 min)

UDWC staff will guide students through an interactive virtual watershed of the Upper Deschutes. They will learn what a watershed is and how their home watershed works. They will be engaged in full group feedback, interactive slide shows, and small breakout group think sessions. The session will end with a quick video prompt for the supplemental activity.

NGSS: 4-ESS1-1, 5-FSS3-1, MS-LS2-4

Supplemental Activity #1: Build a Watershed or Sit and Sketch

Build a Watershed: Students are given YouTube video link to watch and then complete the activity on their own at home.

Observational Sketch: Students are prompted to find a place in an outdoor area, preferably by a stream where they can be inspired to sit and sketch what they see.

Live Session #2: Riparian Researchers (30 min)

Students will learn indicators of stream health using observations of the riparian area through live instruction led by our staff. They will watch a short video about healthy stream features and then interact virtually to analyze pictures to spot and learn about the different features throughout the activity.

NGSS: 4-ESS2-1, 5-LS2-1, MS-LS2-6

Supplemental Activity #2: Healthy Stream Sketch

Students will use whatever medium they choose to show their comprehension of the subject by creating a work of art of a stream with many of the features that they learned about. Art will be done on student's own time and shared in a virtual anonymous gallery.

Live Session #3: Insect Investigations (30-45 min)

What is an aquatic macroinvertebrate and what can they tell us about the health of a stream? Students will watch a short macroinvertebrate sampling video taken on Tumalo Creek. Together we will virtually go through the findings, using a dichotomous key and worksheet, to determine each species.

NGSS: 4-LS1-1, 5-LS2-1, MS-LS2-1

Supplemental Activity #3: Pass it on!

Create a flyer to help educate the public about ways to make Tumalo Creek a better environment for wildlife. Students will either use a digital program or the art mediums of their choice to create an informational flyer to help educate the public about ways to keep Tumalo Creek healthy.



For more information head to our website at www.UpperDeschutesWatershedCouncil.org
Or email our Education Team

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