The Santa Clara Valley Water District believes it’s never too early for children to begin understanding and appreciating their local water resources. The district offers a full range of **FREE** educational programs for both teachers and students. From puppet plays for preschool to workshops for educators, school outreach activities provide effective, hands-on learning. Activities are geared for specific grade levels, from pre-kindergarten to college.

Learn more about our Education Outreach Program at [www.valleywater.org](http://www.valleywater.org) and click on “programs in the drop down menu, then select “teachers and students” or email us at education@valleywater.org.

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**Preschool-Kindergarten**

*Program Duration: 30 minutes*

**Kamishibai Story-telling**
Kamishibai is a traditional Japanese story-telling technique. The Little Blue Hen is a conservation story where the hen teaches us to conserve water every day. The Three Little Pigs and the Big Bad Weather Wolf is our flood season story where students learn how and where to build homes to make them flood-safe.

**Puppet Shows**
Our conservation-themed puppet show features Elmo and Grover in the park where they learn about the importance of picking up litter, recycling, planting trees, and saving water. During flood season Hoots McDrip joins his friends Elmo and Grover and helps to teach them about flood safety.

**Sink or Float**
This fun activity introduces early scientific principles as children experiment with objects to discover whether they sink or float when placed in water.

**Weather Stories**
Students explore weather through stories and art and make their own weather wheel to track the weather every day.

**Teacher Checkout Kits:** Sink or Float and Weather Stories
First grade

Program Duration: 60 minute presentations
(2 activities: 30 minutes each)

Kamishibai Story-telling
(See Kindergarten description.)

Land Forms
Through this activity students will simulate a rain storm and learn what a mountain range is, what a watershed is, and watch how rivers and lakes take shape.

Water Match
Students learn about water as a solid, liquid and a gas and play a matching game as they categorize different images of water according to its state.

Teacher Checkout Kits: Water Match

Second grade

Creek Story
Students will see the effects a community has on their local water supply. This activity demonstrates how their water use affects not themselves, but also the world around them, while teaching a simple conservation message.

Fin Rummy
Students learn about the salmon lifecycle and the many different types of habitats they live in. This presentation informs students about the importance of keeping our water ways clean, as well as conserving water to help protect all forms of life.

Drops on a Penny
This is a fun and interactive activity that incorporates water science to challenge student minds in the field of water. By dropping water on a penny students will experience phenomena of cohesion in a fun filled manner.

On Track with Hydration
On Track with Hydration is an activity that shows students the many different ways that water enters and exits our body. This activity aims to inform students about the importance of staying hydrated, as well as water conservation.

Teacher Checkout Kits: Fin Rummy and On Track with Hydration

Third grade

*Grades 3 thru 5
Program duration: 90 minutes

Little Blue Hen (Readers Theater)
In the Little Blue Hen reader’s theater, students will read about the many different ways they can conserve water. From checking their toilet flappers to screwing on aerators, students will learn about the different resources they can take advantage of to do their part in saving water.

Chicken Little’s Flood Advice (Readers Theater)
This time the sky isn’t falling! Chicken Little teaches his friends how to prepare for flood season and keep their families safe and dry.

Who Dirtied the Bay?
Who Dirtied the Bay is an activity that demonstrates the many different pollutants that enter our San Francisco Bay. This activity aims to help students realize how much we pollute our local water ways, and provide different solutions to help prevent further pollution.

Water Cycle Boogie
Through the use of song and dance, the Water Cycle Boogie activity provides students with knowledge about how our water gets naturally recycled and cleaned by nature. Students will also get a chance to make bracelets symbolizing the different stages of the water cycle for better memory.

Watershed Maps
What is a Watershed? Watershed maps is a hands on activity that provides students with a clear visual that demonstrates and defines the concepts of watersheds, and point and non-point source pollution. Concluding the activity we will discuss what the students learned as well as discuss the safety aspects of living in a watershed.

Teacher Checkout Kits: Water Cycle Boogie and Watershed Maps
Fourth grade

Program duration: 90 minutes

Teach a Mouse (Readers Theater)
The Teach a Mouse reader’s theater is inspired by the book “If You Give a Mouse a Cookie” and shows that if you teach someone to save water they will want to continue to save! This activity informs students about some of the many different ways they can save water at home and at school.

Salmon Survival
Salmon Survival is an interactive game that shows students the many different obstacles that salmon face as they migrate from the ocean to their spawning ground. After an overview of the salmon lifecycle, students will role-play being salmon as they make the perilous journey from the ocean to the creek. The activity ends with a discussion about the importance of protecting our water systems for all plants and animals.

Incredible Journey
Water on the go! The Incredible Journey activity is an exciting game that illustrates the different ways water moves throughout our environment. Students role-play being drops of water as they journey through the water cycle and record their journey to discuss at the end of the activity.

Watershed Maps (Please see third grade description.)

Teacher Checkout Kits: Salmon Survival, Incredible Journey and Watershed Maps

Fifth grade

Program duration: 90 minutes

Mapping History (Please allow at least 60 minutes.)
Discover the history of the Santa Clara Valley and the people who have called it home. Beginning with the first inhabitants, the Ohlone Indians, and moving well into the future of the Silicon Valley to 2050, learn about the changing faces of the cultures, music, use of the land and the growing population over time. Ask the difficult question, “How will this land continue to sustain us as the population grows and the demands on the land and its surrounding resources, including water, will only increase?” This program includes hundreds of figurines and a large interactive map that will illustrate the changes in the valley over time.

http://tinyurl.com/nf9azka

Incredible Journey (Please see fourth grade description.)

Water Crossing
In this design challenge, students engineer a miniature raft that will carry “cargo” across a “river” as both native people and early settlers had to do. The goal of this activity is for small groups of students (using only sticks, string and scissors) to carry their cargo for at least 3 seconds. This activity aims to explain the team work and thought processes that go into designing a water supply system.

Dilemma Derby
Fruit or candy? The Dilemma Derby presentation is a fun interactive game that aims to show students how the choices they make every day can affect the world around them. Giving students scenario cards, they will be able to analyze situations and make the right choices. Concluding the activity we will discuss some of the situations students were in and the choices they made showing them the benefits and consequences of their choices.

Teacher Checkout Kits: Water Crossing and Seeing Watersheds

Sixth grade

Sum of Its Parts
As students design their own riverfront property they explore how communities impact watersheds. This activity demonstrates how everyone contributes to the pollution of a river as it flows through a watershed and emphasizes that everyone’s impact can be reduced if we all work together.

Seeing Watersheds
Students learn about the importance of environmental stewardship as they explore a map of their local watershed and understand how humans can positively and negatively impact the health of our water supply. Through this mapping activity they gain an understanding of watershed boundaries, tributaries and how water travels through our environment.

Dilemma Derby (Please see fifth grade description.)
Seventh and Eighth grades

Discover California Water
After an overview of our State’s water supply system, students learn about Santa Clara County’s water sources as they play an interactive game that also tests their knowledge of California’s complex system of aqueducts, reservoirs and water science.

Parts Per Billion
Through this hands-on science activity students gain a better understanding of the efforts involved in meeting our strict drinking water quality standards as they learn about maximum contamination levels of potential pollutants.

Grave Mistake
Students analyze data to solve a mystery and identify the source of a health hazard and a potential polluter.

Water Crossing (See Fifth grade curriculum)

Seeing Watersheds (See Sixth grade curriculum)

Highschool and college

Please call or e-mail us to inquire as these programs are typically customized upon request. Choices include careers, purified water, stewardship, watershed management and groundwater.

Educator workshops

Project WET (Water Education for Teachers)
A free course for instructors on important water topics. The training includes hands-on demonstrations of water lessons and activities. Participants will be “immersed” in the world of water and experience it firsthand. Attendees will receive the Project WET Curriculum and Activity Guide free. It contains more than 90 activities, which cover water topics aligned with California state standards. The guide is only available through training workshops.

Contact us
For more information, contact the Education Outreach Staff or email education@valleywater.org, or visit our website at valleywater.org and use our Access Valley Water customer request and information system. With three easy steps, you can use this service to find out the latest information on district projects or to submit questions, complaints or compliments directly to a district staff person.

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