

Water Management Then and Now

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Subject/Grade: 6th grade core (ELA & social studies)



1-2 Sentence Lesson Summary

Students will learn how the people of Mesopotamia designed and managed systems to utilize their water resources. Then, students will explore the issue of limited water today by researching the topic in a text set. Then, they will learn how in modern times we still have to use cooperation and systems to utilize our water resources today. I will utilize this [video](#) to show the wastewater treatment process, and show pics from our wastewater treatment tour to bring to life for the students how this process looks today and how it is really not so different from what people started to do 8000 years ago when we first began controlling our limited water supply. This is an introductory lesson in a bigger unit about the environment and activism that is part of a year long class theme.

Driving Question that Students Will Explore

How do people in both ancient and modern times design and manage systems to utilize their limited water resources?

Water Industry Connection (e.g., an industry-related career, skill, or challenge; addresses **reducing water pollutants, conserving water resources, and/or inspiring watershed stewardship**)

*In this lesson, students will explore how people **conserved and managed water resources** in ancient times and how and why we are still continuing this same work today.*

Learning Goals: Make sure to address how your lesson will:

- Involve your students in a [Community Environmental Action](#)
- Develop Critical Thinking Skills (e.g. CERs, Student Inquiry)

Students will be able to be involved in a community environmental action plan by the end of third quarter, Here is the choice board [here](#).

This lesson is a first month of school introductory lesson to gather knowledge about the modern day issue of water. Students will summarize information that they read in articles, analyze and sort content and details on a Venn diagram, and compare/contrast ancient vs. modern times.

During the second semester, they will use inquiry to research teen activism, and then after reading the book, Hoot, do a choice board project on an environmental action project of their choice.

Instructional Outline: This should be the bulk of your writing. Bullets of what the students will do throughout the lesson to reach the learning goals you have set.

Hook/Intro... Ancient Irrigation Video to review how people of Mesopotamia solved the issue of a growing population and an uncontrolled water supply.

During... Students will research modern day issues and potential solutions about utilizing our limited water resources. Teacher will share a firsthand example of a water treatment plant as a local solution to this problem.

Reflection... Students will complete Venn Diagrams and final paragraph about ancient and modern times to see the past and present connections of how people design and manage systems to utilize their limited water resources. (NOTE: This is an introductory lesson that relates to a larger activism unit. At the beginning of the year, I am introducing them to different issues, and they will choose one that they have a passion about to do a project on. Water is one of the many issues that they can choose from.)

Standards: Common Core, NGSS, CTE, GoalBook or another state or national list.

CA Environmental Principles: #1 People depend on natural systems. #2 People influence natural systems

Social Studies Standard 6.2.1. Locate and describe the major river systems and **discuss the physical settings that supported permanent settlement and early civilizations.**

Assessment: How will you check your students' understanding? Check out these [creative assessments](#) if helpful.

Slide 11 on the student slides is my assessment. Since this is an introductory lesson in a year long theme, students will complete a choice board larger scale environmental project during second semester. Choice board is linked [here](#).

Materials/Resources

[Water Management Lesson Link](#)- TEACHER SLIDES
[Water Management Lesson Link](#)- STUDENT SLIDES