



“Our Water” teaches about water issues local to San Francisco, and supports CA State Standards for Grades 4-6. Most materials can be adapted for use in other regions. Although there is a suggested order, “Our Water” is flexible and can be used whole or in part. It takes approximately 2-3 weeks to complete this unit. (ESL/ELL Teachers: “Our Water” will better fit your students grades 7-12.)

## Student Fact Sheets & Comprehension Questions

Fact Sheets can stand alone or be used with the Lesson Plans, as noted. All Fact Sheets come with Comprehension Questions that support language arts development. If you are unable to make copies of fact sheets for your students, you can project the fact sheet onto the board with a computer projector, or have students read them online at: [SFWater.org/Education](http://SFWater.org/Education). Fact Sheets can be read in any order, but have been numbered in the sequence that makes the most sense:

1. **Our Water**
2. **Hetch Hetchy**
3. **What is a Drought?**
4. **Recycled Water**
5. **Desalination**
6. **Groundwater**
7. **Pesky Plastics**
8. **Let's Save Water**

## Glossary

Use the Glossary as needed. It is also part of an Activity Sheet. Most words in the Glossary are found in the Fact Sheets.

## Lesson Plans

Lesson Plans support CA State Standards and investigate various aspects of water resources and water use. (Standards are listed at the end of each Lesson Plan.) All Lesson Plans incorporate one or two relevant Fact Sheets which students can read as background information before doing the lesson. This is optional. *Note: All fact sheets except Recycled Water and Pesky Plastics are part of a lesson plan.*

1. **Water from the Well** —Students re-enact San Francisco’s Gold Rush days, compare access to fresh water then and today, and analyze their findings.
2. **Water Here, Water There** —Students gain appreciation for freshwater resources by comparing and contrasting water supply and water quality in San Francisco and Kolkata (Calcutta), India.
3. **Water Use Everywhere** —Students use observation and imagination to learn how water is used for countless purposes in a variety of places.
4. **“Wet” Your Appetite** —Students learn how much water is needed to produce food, and use math skills to create a menu that helps conserve water.
5. **“Still” Waters** —Students make a solar still to observe different stages of the water cycle and to learn about desalination.

## Activity Sheets

Activity Sheets are fun and can be used at any time during the unit. There are two versions of “Secret Message Math”—one for multiplication, one for fractions. The solution is the same for both, so you decide which version to use. To shorten the math problems required, provide your students some of the word solutions.