



Colorado River Kits

Brought to you by the Colorado River Alliance

Colorado River Kits are a free curriculum resource provided by the Colorado River Alliance. Colorado River Kits help teach students about the Colorado River and important water concepts through engaging hands-on activities. All Kits contain multiple lessons, allowing teachers to customize their programming, and each lesson is TEKS-aligned. All Colorado River Kits includes the following:

- Teacher's guide
- Lesson plans
- List of TEKS correlations
- All necessary supplies

Colorado River Kits can be used in conjunction with a field trip to Redbud Center (as a pre- or post-trip activity), or they can be used independently of the field trip, when the activities best fit into units of study. To check out a Kit, simply complete the Kit registration form and fax or mail it to the Colorado River Alliance.

On the following pages, we have provided descriptions of the Kits we currently offer. Check back as we will be adding others soon!

Kits TEKS-aligned for 4th & 5th Grade:

Wetlands Exploration

The Wetlands Exploration Kit is a great way for fourth or fifth graders to discover the importance of wetlands and the ecological roles they play. This hands-on activity allows students to be creative while using the scientific method to explore wetlands.

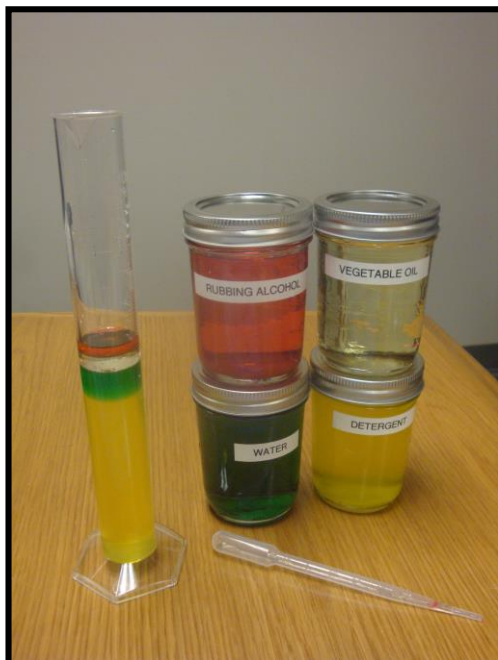
- Lesson 1: Brainstorming Wetlands – Students will contribute their prior knowledge and experiences to gain background information and clear misconceptions about wetlands. They will also be able to see examples of flora and fauna found in Texas wetlands; a diagram of how wetlands work; and they will read about the importance of wetlands in the TPWD booklet entitled, “Wetlands: Texas Treasures.”
- Lesson 2: Building a Wetland – Students will use creativity to build a wetland and discover its important functions through hands-on experiments involving water and “pollutants.”
- Lesson 3: Living Food Web Activity – Students will recognize wetlands as important habitats for unique wildlife as well as understand the delicate balance of a wetland ecosystem. They will creatively act out a “living food web” by pretending to be different plants and animals commonly found in wetlands, and they will have the opportunity to see the effects of wetland destruction on the wildlife living there.
- Enrichment - – Enrichment activities, including a matching game and word search, are provided as a review of the concepts students will have learned in the previous lessons.

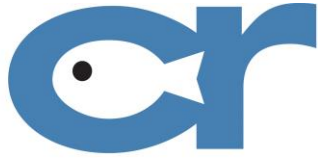


Water Cycle in Action

The Water Cycle in Action Kit allows teachers to demonstrate the water cycle right in their own classrooms. This activity allows students to observe the different components of the water cycle; to learn about the effects pollution has on the water cycle; and to learn about the distribution of fresh water on Earth.

- Lesson 1: Brainstorming the Water Cycle – Using tools provided in the kit such as a large water cycle poster and a transparency, students will gain essential background knowledge about the water cycle and how a drop of water cycles through Earth's systems.
- Lesson 2: Water Cycle Demonstration – In a classroom demonstration, the teacher will use a large beaker, ice, and a hot plate to simulate how water on earth warms and evaporates, then cools and condenses. "Pollutants," such as pepper and food dye, can be added to show the effects of pollution on the water cycle including how higher concentrations of pollutants are left behind after evaporation and how this might affect the environment.
- Lesson 3: Water Distribution – Students will experiment with liquids of different densities to observe the distribution of freshwater on Earth as well as learn the importance of conserving what little fresh water is available.
- Enrichment – Enrichment activities, including the Water Cycle Board Game and a word search, are provided as a review of the concepts students will have learned in the previous lessons.





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Thank you for your interest in Colorado River Kits!

To request a **Colorado River Kit** please **email** a copy of this form to morgan@coloradoriver.org or **fax** to 512-473-3253.

Group Information:

Name: _____

School/Organization: _____

Address: _____ Zip code: _____

Email: _____ Phone Number: _____

Grade Level/Age Group: _____ Expected # of Students: _____

Scheduling Information:

Kit pickup and drop off times *must* be arranged in advance (available Tuesday through Friday 9am-5pm). All kits must be picked up and dropped off at the Colorado River Alliance office at 325 Lake Austin Blvd.

Date and time of Kit Pickup: _____

Date and time of Kit Return: _____

Kit Request:

Please check the kit requested:

TEKS-aligned for 4 th & 5 th Grade:	
Water Cycle in Action	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wetlands Exploration	<input type="checkbox"/>