

Redbud Field Trip Vocabulary List

Conserving the Colorado

1. **Conserve/Conservation**- preservation, protection, or restoration of the natural environment/ecosystem, vegetation, and wildlife.
2. **Efficient**- achieving maximum productivity with minimum wasted effort or expense.
3. **Irrigation**- the artificial application of water to land to assist in the production of crops.
4. **Rain barrel**- a barrel of or for rain water; a barrel placed so as to catch water from eaves.
5. **Drought**- a period of below-average precipitation in a given region, resulting in prolonged shortages in its water supply.
6. **Sustainability**- using the resources we have today that ensures the availability and usability of the resources in the future.

Water Cycle

1. **Freshwater**- water that is not salty especially when considered as a natural resource.
2. **Saltwater** – Saline water typically found in Oceans.
3. **Groundwater** – water found underground.
4. **States of matter – solid**: particles are packed tightly together and they have a definite shape; **liquid**: particles have just enough room to flow around each other so they have an indefinite shape; and **gas**: particles have lots of space between them so gas will spread out indefinitely and expand to fill its container.
5. **Evaporation** - to change from a liquid into a gas.
6. **Condensation**- the process by which a gas cools and becomes a liquid.
7. **Precipitation**- water that falls to the ground as rain, snow, sleet, or hail.
8. **Transpiration**- the passage of watery vapor from a living body (as of a plant) through a membrane or pores.
9. **Pollution**- substances that make land, water, air, etc., dirty and not safe or suitable to use.

The Colorado River: Past, Present, Future

1. **River source**- the original point from which the river flows.
2. **River mouth** – the part of a river that flows into a lake, reservoir, or ocean.
3. **Watershed**- An area of land that drains rainwater into one location.
4. **Tributaries**- A river or stream flowing into a larger river or lake.
5. **Municipal** – city users; houses, stores, restaurants.
6. **Agriculture**- used for plants and animals that provide food.
7. **Industrial**- factories and big companies; Samsung, power plants.
8. **Environment**- plants and animals in nature; fish in nature depend on the river.
9. **Dam** - structure built in waterway to hold back floods and retain water for drinking purpose.
10. **Floods**- an overflowing of a large amount of water beyond its normal confines.
11. **Reservoir**- lake or area of river where water is held back by dam.

12. **Hydroelectricity** - electricity generated from movement of water.

Water Sources and Watersheds

1. **Surface Water**- water that collects on the surface of the ground.
2. **Aquifers**- natural underground water storage.
3. **Ridge** - geological feature consisting of a chain of mountains or hills that form a continuous elevated crest.
4. **Infiltration**- downward movement of water into soil.
5. **Point-source pollution**- any single identifiable source of pollution from which pollutants are discharged, such as a pipe, ditch, ship or factory smokestack.
6. **Non-point source pollution**- water and air pollution from diffused sources; you cannot point to where the pollution is coming from.
7. **Feces**- waste matter discharged from humans or animals.
8. **Run-off**- water that flows over the surface of the land when rainfall is not able to infiltrate into the soil.
9. **Nutrients** – a substance that provides nourishment essential for growth and the maintenance of life.
10. **Pervious groundcover** - a material that water can infiltrate into.
11. **Impervious ground cover** - a material on the land surface through which water cannot infiltrate; concrete, asphalt, metal, or brick.