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.