

APPLICABLE TO:

- AIR
- ENERGY
- WATER
- WASTE
- TOXINS

RECOMMENDED AGE:

- ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
- MIDDLE SCHOOL
- HIGH SCHOOL
- COLLEGE

COST:

- FREE
- \$1 - \$15
- \$16 - \$50
- \$50 and more

REINFORCES:

- CRITICAL THINKING
- COMMUNICATION
- CREATIVITY
- COLLABORATION

20 MINUTE ACTIVITY: GUESS THE WATER WORD

OVERVIEW:

Work together with your Grades of Green Team students to solve a set of water themed riddles. Each correctly-solved riddle will earn you a random letter that is part of a secret water-themed word. How many words can you unscramble?

MATERIAL CHECKLIST

- Printer
- Level 1 Guess the Water Word Riddles List (Provided)
- Whiteboard and marker (optional)

ACTIVITY STEPS:

1. Select someone to volunteer as the Riddle Reader. Have the Riddle Reader read one of the riddle questions on the Water Word Riddles list out loud and slowly to the group. Make sure they do not read the correct answer, or the letter awarded.
2. Allow students to work together and guess what they think is the correct answer. Once they guess the correct answer which is written on the Water Word Riddles List, the Riddle Reader can reward them by presenting the associated letter which is written at the end of each riddle question.
3. Ensure game players know each letter awarded is a random letter that is part of a larger word related to water. Have one student write down the awarded letter on the whiteboard.
4. Have the Riddle Reader read off each riddle question and award the students with the associated letters until all the riddles questions are solved and all the letters have been awarded. Have a new student write down each new rewarded letter to help keep track of the scrambled letters.
5. Once all the letters are identified from one riddle, ask the group to work together to descramble the word. The answer will be on the provided Water Word Riddles list.
6. After a Water Word is descrambled, have the group discuss the definition of the word. A brief definition is provided on the Water Word Riddles list if students are unsure what the word means. Ask students how they think the word relates to water conservation or water pollution.
7. The Riddle Reader can share some of the questions below each Water Word Riddle to guide the discussion.

RECOMMENDED GRADES OF GREEN ACTIVITIES:

- ⇒ In-Class Water Activities
- ⇒ Water Earth Tips

LEVEL 1 WATER WORD RIDDLES LIST

RIDDLE #1

1. In order to grow one pound of this crunchy and common fruit, you must use [83 gallons of water](#). This fruit is likely in one of your lunchboxes or is often served in the cafeteria.
 - a. Correct Answer: Apple
 - b. Letter Awarded: A
2. In order for clouds to form, water rises to do this. This word is a part of the water cycle.
 - a. Correct Answer: Evaporation
 - b. Letter Awarded: E
3. Did you know [one pound of beef requires approximately 2500 gallons of water to make, while one pound of soy requires 250 gallons of water and a pound of wheat only 25 gallons](#)? By taking on this type of diet which consists of no meat, you can help save water.
 - a. Correct Answer: Vegetarian
 - b. Letter Awarded: V
4. This form of air blows around the world and helps create waves in the oceans. It can sometimes blow the leaves off of trees.
 - a. Correct answer: Wind
 - b. Letter Awarded: W

Water Word: **WAVE** - the back and forth movement of water.

- Where can you find waves in nature?
- Why might waves be important? (They are fun, can help creatures such as jellyfish travel, etc.)
- How can waves impact litter in our oceans?

RIDDLE #2

1. This part of a tree helps absorb water and nutrients, and can be found under the ground.
 - a. Correct Answer: Root
 - b. Letter Awarded: R
2. This body of land is surrounded by water on all sides. Even if this body of land has no humans living on it, trash can still collect on it after being moved around by waves.
 - a. Correct Answer: Island
 - b. Letter Awarded: I
3. 70% of this continent is covered by desert, making it one of the driest continents on earth. It is also home to kangaroos, koalas, and the Great Barrier Reef.
 - a. Correct Answer: Australia
 - b. Letter Awarded: A
4. This sugar-rich liquid is produced by plants and is eaten by insects such as bees and butterflies. Bees actually use this liquid to make honey.
 - a. Correct answer: Nectar

b. Letter Awarded: N
Water Word: **RAIN** - water that falls from the sky.

- Why is rain important to plants and animals?
- If rain gets becomes dirty with chemicals in the air, what effects do you think it might have on plants and animals?
- Can you describe the water cycle?