

Pollution Patrol

Materials Needed:

- Pencil

There are many ways water can get polluted.

Pollution is anything that can make the water unsafe or unhealthy such as trash, dirt and oil.

Water does not only get dirty from people dumping directly into it. Things that happen in our everyday lives, far away from creeks, end up polluting our water. Stormwater runoff is rainwater that flows into creeks. This water can collect debris, trash, chemicals, dog waste and other pollutants which degrade our water quality.

The storm drains you see under the curbs on the street lead directly to creeks and streams. Each time the sidewalk and street get wet, pollutants such as litter, motor oil, pet waste, leaves, grass clipping, fertilizer and spilled chemicals wash down the storm drain. These pollutants make their way to our creeks and streams. You can help prevent pollution from getting into our creeks and streams.

What you'll do:

- Read about water pollution.
- Answer questions about storm drains and protecting water quality.
- Fill in the blanks for a "mad-libs" type story and share the hilarious results.



1. Where do storm drains lead?

2. Who is responsible for reducing water pollution?

3. Think of three things you can do to reduce water pollution:

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____



Watershed-Libs

Complete the following for hilarious results.

Last week, my friends and I took a hike to the

_____ Creek near our city of
adjective

_____. The creek ran through an
place

open field and some _____ trees. It
adjective

really was a _____ place to see! After
adverb

we hiked along the creek, we decided to go

_____ down the creek to learn
verb ending in -ing

more about the watershed. Some of the creek's flow is diverted into a reservoir that stores

Colorado Springs drinking water. Some of those reservoirs offer a chance to _____! In
verb

the creek water we saw sediment that eroded from nearby hills. We also saw a _____
noun

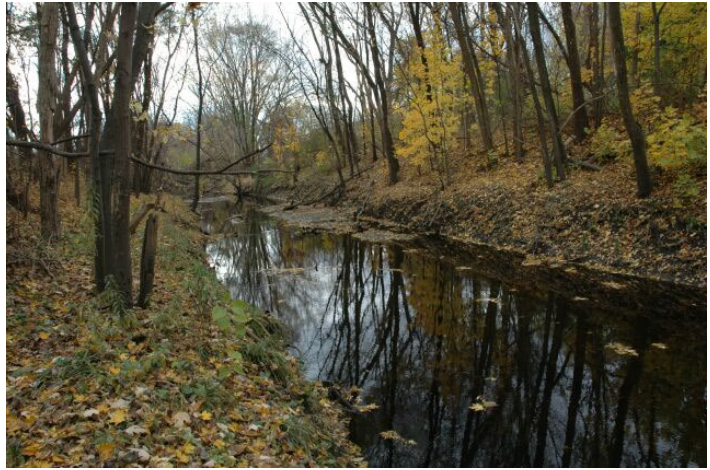
floating in the water. We have to keep this water clean! There were small trout in the Creek and

a _____ _____ on the shore. Suddenly we saw _____ had
adjective **animal** **proper name**

_____ into the water. My friend discovered a _____. We shouted:
verb ending in -ed **natural object**

_____! We took it back to school to study under a microscope. Creeks are always so
funny expression

much _____.
adjective



Enjoy trails at the Bear Creek Nature Center which follow the creek where you can observe wildlife and enjoy water!