



Science Virtual Learning

7th Grade Science

Water Pollution

May 5, 2020



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Lesson: May 5, 2020

Objective/Learning Target:

I can explain what water pollution is and how it impacts the environment.

Bellwork

1. Use [this Quizziz Set](#) to see what you already know about pollution. (Click on link to go to site)
2. On a piece of paper, answer the question: **(Answers on the next slide in reading passage)**
 - a. What are some water pollution types or examples that you know about already?



Today Part 1

1. Watch [this video](#) to learn about water pollution.
2. Read [this page](#) about water pollution and how it can affect the environment.



Today Part 1: Big Ideas

Water pollution:

Water pollution is when waste, chemicals, or other particles cause a body of water (i.e. rivers, oceans, lakes) to become harmful to the fish and animals that need the water to survive. Water pollution can disrupt and negatively impact nature's water cycle as well.



Write down these takeaways on a sheet of paper.

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Today Part 1: Big Ideas

Ways water pollution can affect the environment:

- Pollution in the water can reach a point where there isn't enough oxygen in the water for the fish to breathe. The fish can actually suffocate!
- Sometimes pollution affects the entire food chain. Small fishes absorb pollutants, such as chemicals, into their bodies. Then bigger fishes eat the smaller fishes and get the pollutants too. Birds or other animals may eat the bigger fishes and be harmed by the pollutants. One example of this was the use of the insecticide (bug killer) DDT. When birds of prey ate fishes that were infected with it, they would lay eggs with thin shells. The population of birds of prey began to drop until DDT was banished.
- Sewage can also cause major problems in rivers. Bacteria in the water will use oxygen to break down the sewage. If there is too much sewage, the bacteria could use up so much oxygen that there won't be enough left for the fish.
- Water pollution from major events like acid rain or oil spills can completely destroy marine habitats.

Write down these answers on a sheet of paper.

Today Part 2

1. Pick a topic (list to the right) and learn the following about it:
 - a. What is the problem?
 - b. What is currently being done to fix this problem?
 - c. What can you do in your own home/school to help with this?
2. Check out this [Water Footprint Calculator](#).
 - a. Write down what uses the most water in your home.
 - b. What ways could you reduce the amount of water that you and your family use?

Research Topics:

- *Ocean Acidification*
- *Plastics in the Oceans*
- *Contaminated Drinking Water*
- *Contaminated Groundwater*

Check Your Learning:

1. Take [this Quiz](#) to see what you learned!
 - a. **Answers** show up automatically.
2. Go back and review the Water Cycle with [this handout](#).
 - a. **Answers** on the second page.

