

## ***The Clues in the Creek Teacher Guide***

### **What is this educational video about?**

This video teaches students how our waterways become polluted with litter, why this is a problem, and what we can do to prevent it. In the video, an elementary school principal is concerned about litter in the creek on their campus and reaches out to their local water provider for help. The water provider investigates, talks with local experts, and helps the school discover that the litter is washing into their creek when it rains. They also discover that the litter is not only an eyesore, but harms wildlife, and pollutes water used for drinking, swimming and fishing. Once the school learns what's happening, they organize a clean-up and help get the word out.

### **How long is the video and how is it structured?**

The video is 20 minutes long and features an introduction, short skits, five pause points to engage students in critical thinking and discussion, and a closing summary.

### **How can I use this video to engage my students?**

- 1) Preview the video before you show it to your students.
- 2) Review the Student Guide (located in the same folder as the Teacher Guide) and prepare paper copies or provide digital access for students.
- 3) When beginning the lesson, share the title of the video with students and ask them what they think it might be about to stimulate their curiosity.
- 4) Ask students the following pre-assessment questions and provide the answer choices listed below. Explain that each student can choose only one answer and record how many students vote for each answer in the spaces below. If you share the pre and post assessment data in the evaluation (link below), you can choose a free book for your classroom library.
  - a. Where does your drinking water come from?  
1) Lakes \_\_\_\_\_ 2) Underground \_\_\_\_\_ 3) Rain collected in containers \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Where does rain go when it falls on the street?  
1) Into sewers to be cleaned \_\_\_\_\_ 2) Into creeks and lakes \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Whose job is it to protect water from pollution?  
1) Government's \_\_\_\_\_ 2) Factories' \_\_\_\_\_ 3) Everyone's \_\_\_\_\_

- 5) Watch the video and stop it when the pause points appear for reflection and discussion. The pause points feature a large graphic of a question mark and one or two questions for students to discuss. Allow time for students to reflect on the questions, take notes in their Student Guide, and share with the class.
- 6) After the video, ask students the following post-assessment questions and record their answers on this sheet. If you share the pre and post assessment data with the video sponsor in the evaluation form (link below), you can choose a free book for your classroom library.
- a. Where does your drinking water come from?  
1) Lakes \_\_\_\_\_ 2) Underground \_\_\_\_\_ 3) Rain collected in containers \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Where does rain go when it falls on the street?  
1) Into sewers to be cleaned \_\_\_\_\_ 2) Into creeks and lakes \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Whose job is it to protect water from pollution?  
1) Government's \_\_\_\_\_ 2) Factories' \_\_\_\_\_ 3) Everyone's \_\_\_\_\_
- 7) Help students understand and apply what they learned by asking discussion questions such as:
- a. What questions do you have about the story?
  - b. Did anything surprise you in the story?
  - c. Based on what you learned, what actions can you take to help protect and save water? What actions can your family take? What actions can your school take?

**We appreciate you using this video resource and we welcome your feedback!**

Would you please fill out a short evaluation form and provide your pre and post student assessment data? Click [here for the evaluation](#) or find the link at [www.savetarrantwater.com/watermystery](http://www.savetarrantwater.com/watermystery).

To thank you for the evaluation, we will send you an insulated tumbler to enjoy at school and on the go. If you provide the student assessment data, you can also choose a free book for your classroom.

Thank you for helping students think critically about conserving and protecting our water resources! For questions or comments, please email:

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