Environmental Education: Harbour and Watershed Protection

Watershed Story

Background Information

A watershed is an area of land that drains rain, snow and ground water to a common point, such as a creek, wetland, lake or ocean. Watersheds can be different sizes and scales. Small watersheds can be part of larger watersheds.

For thousands of years, watersheds on Southern Vancouver Island have supported people and a huge diversity of wildlife that live on the land and in and around our creeks, wetlands and lakes.

A healthy watershed includes ample trees throughout to absorb and slow the rain, as well as vegetated areas around the banks of a lake or creek which acts as a filter for incoming water. This keeps it clean for the animals, insects, birds and fish that live in these habitats and ecosystems.

We all live in a watershed, whether natural, urban or rural. We are all affected buy the rain that falls, the soil, the plants, trees, wildlife and the flow of water through out watersheds. What we do on land directly impacts the health of our local water bodies. When we protect our watersheds we keep our creeks, wetlands, lakes and harbours clean and healthy. These clean watersheds and water bodies provide good homes for many different plants and animals.

Activity Instructions

Colour the images provided. Once coloured, cut out the squares. Arrange your cut-out, coloured images to create a story about watersheds and how we can protect them. You may use all the squares or only some of the squares. You can tell your story out loud or if you'd like, you can glue the coloured images onto a piece of paper and write your story underneath.

Still Curious?

CRD Watershed Stewardship videos: <u>What is a watershed?</u> and <u>How have we changed our watersheds?</u>
More information about capital region <u>Harbours</u>; <u>Watersheds</u> or <u>Ecosystems</u>

<u>Drip, Drip, Drop</u> song — CRDVictoria YouTube (2:19) Learn a new water song! Listen and sing-along to this song about water.

Use the regional <u>watershed maps</u> to find which watershed you live in. Where does all the water that lands in your yard and watershed meet the ocean?

<u>Down the Drain and Back Again</u> (16:06) - CRDVictoria YouTube

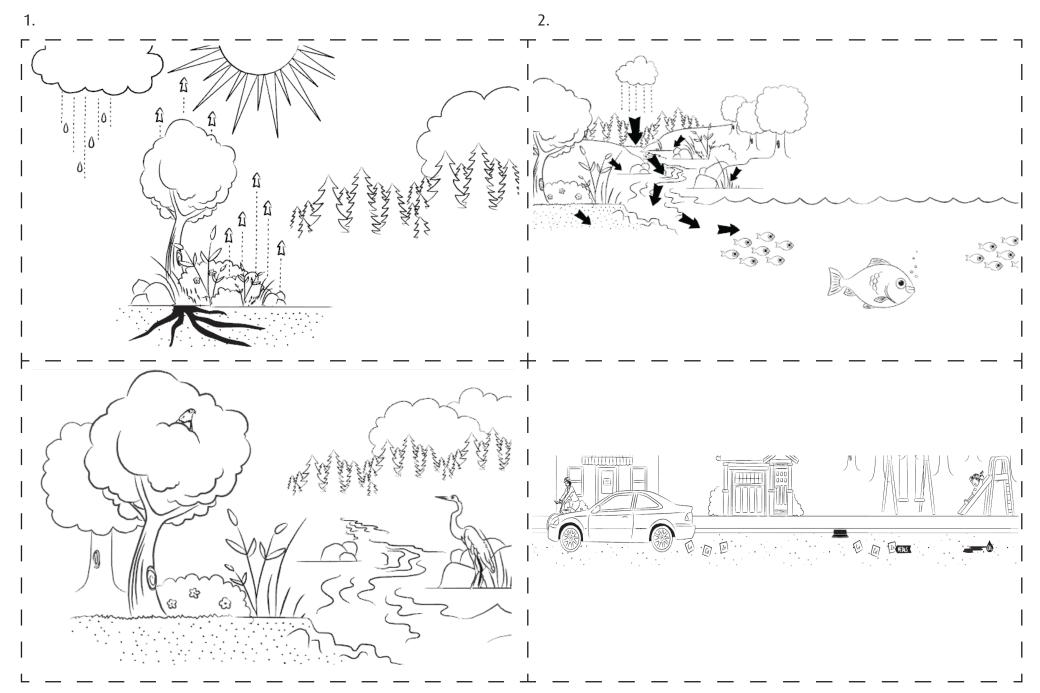
Learn about where the capital region's drinking water comes from and tips to use our drinking water wisely. Watch as Sprinkle, the water drop, teaches Dylan and Dana how to conserve water by turning them into water drops. Their adventures starts by going down the drain and flowing out to the ocean. There, the sun heats them up and they evaporate into the clouds. They then transform into raindrops and fall from the sky in to a creek that flows into the Sooke Lake Reservoir, where our drinking water is stored.

If you have any questions about watersheds in the region, or are looking for ideas on how to connect this topic with other learning opportunities, contact us at education@crd.bc.ca.

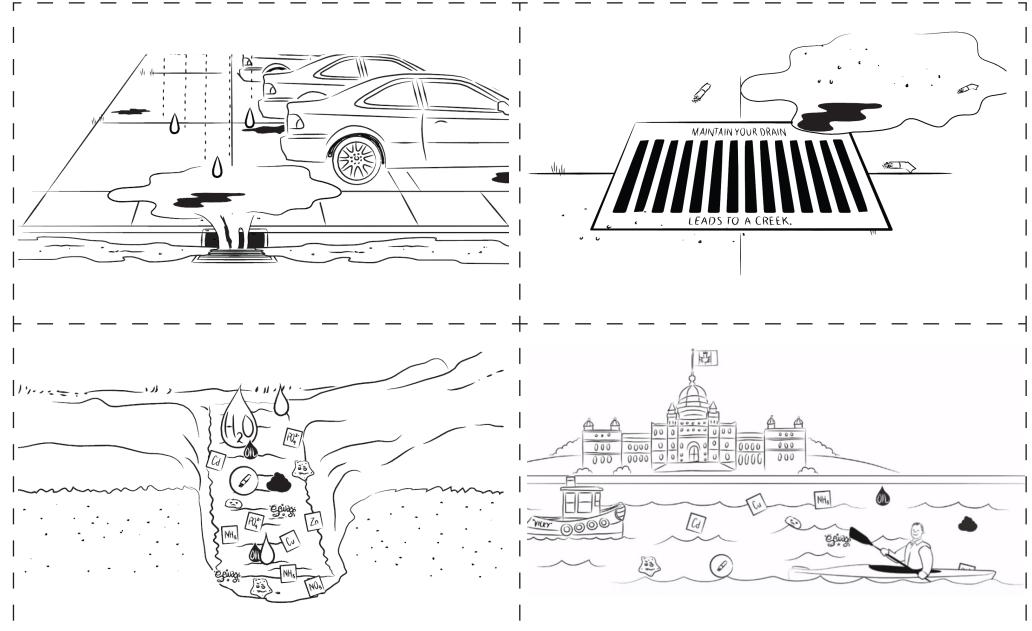


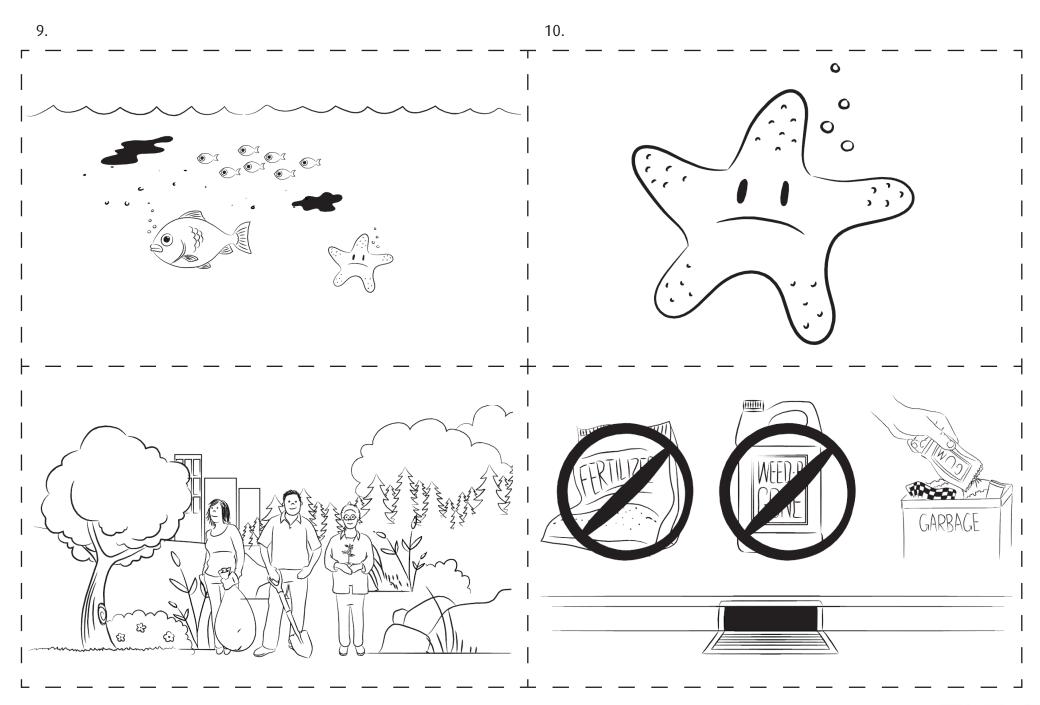
Watershed Story

Use the images below to create a watershed story. Colour all the images and then cut them out. Arrange your squares to create a story.



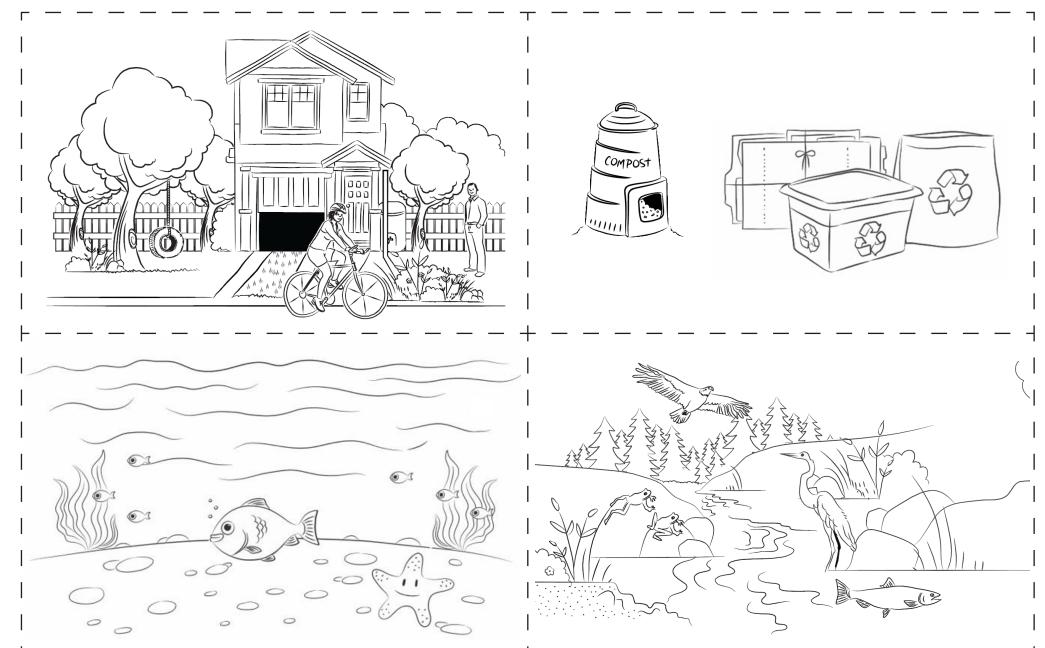
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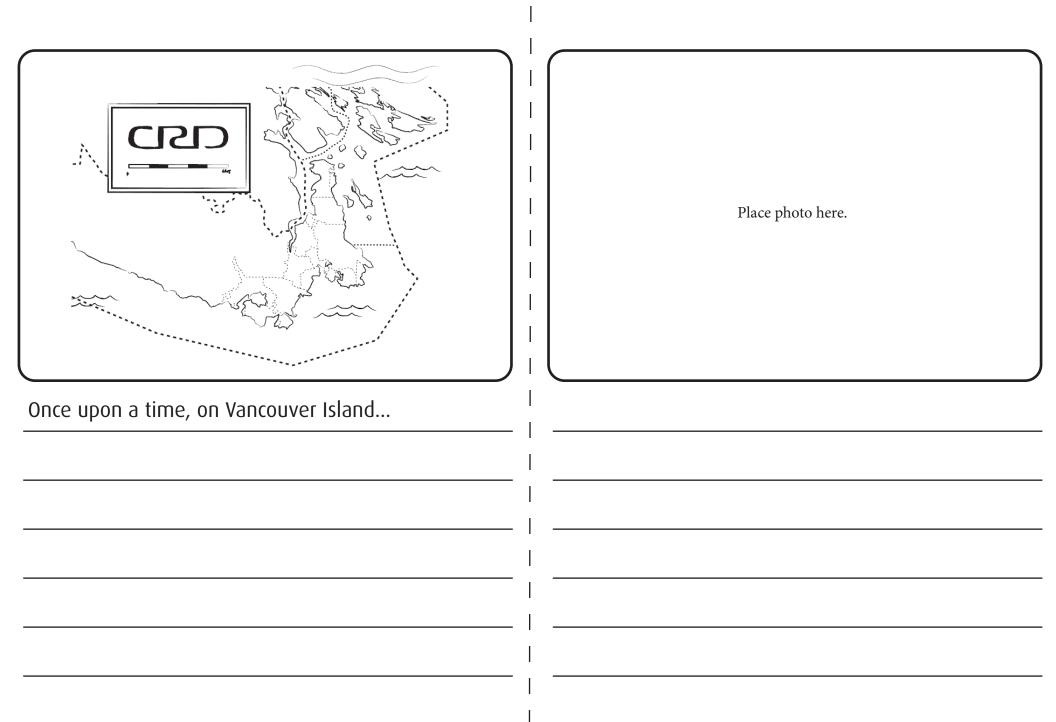




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