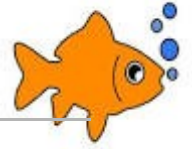




Practice Task: Clean Water, Healthy Fish



PART 1: RESEARCH (approx. 60-90 mins.)

Student Directions:

Your Task:

Help! Our local waters are getting polluted and our fish are at risk of dying. Your class has been asked to help other students to learn about the importance of clean water for healthy fish. You will read an article and watch a video, taking notes on these sources. Through these sources, you will learn about stormwater pollution and how we can prevent it. You will also learn the importance of this phrase: *Only rain down the drain!* Your essay will help other students to understand the importance of clean water for healthy fish!

Steps you will be following:

To plan and write your essay, you will do all the following:

1. Read an article about stormwater pollution.
2. Watch one video.
3. Answer three questions about the sources.
4. Plan and write your essay.

Directions for beginning:

You will now watch the video and read the article. Take notes because you may want to refer to your notes while writing your essay. You can look at the sources as often as you like.

Article: *Let's Stop Stormwater Pollution!* N. Skerritt, 2016

Video: *Freddy the Fish Teaches About Stormwater* (4:28)
<https://youtu.be/8NTCq0h8azM>

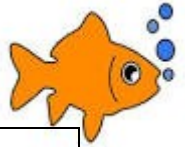
Use the notetaking graphic organizers to take your notes on both sources.

My Notes



Source	How Stormwater gets polluted	Why pollution is bad for fish	What we can do to keep the water clean
Video: Freddy the Fish Teachers about Stormwater			

My Notes



Source	How Stormwater gets polluted	Why pollution is bad for fish	What we can do to keep the water clean
Article: Let's Stop Stormwater Pollution!			

Your notes will not be scored. You may use them to answer questions and to write your essay.

Let's Stop Stormwater Pollution!

What is water pollution?

Pollution:
*Things we put into
the environment
that are harmful*

Our water becomes polluted or unhealthy when things like car oil, pet waste and yard chemicals get washed into our rivers, lakes, and ocean. The Puget Sound is the home to many animals including shellfish like oysters and clams. These creatures must have clean water to grow and survive. Water pollution is a threat to these animals. When it rains, the rainwater picks up oil, pet waste, chemicals, soap, and other pollutants from our lawns and carries these pollutants into our rivers, lakes, and ocean. The polluted water goes into storm drains and then into the Puget Sound. Stormwater pollution is a huge problem for our sea life!

What can we do to stop this pollution and keep the water clean?

First, we can pick up our pet waste. Poop from our dogs has bacteria in it that can make us sick. We don't want to swim in polluted water or eat fish that comes from water that has pet waste in it. Too much poop in the water means that people can't swim, walk, or play in the water and they can't harvest and eat seafood like oysters and clams.



Next, we can use safe products for our lawns, vegetable gardens and other plants.

There are products that are safe for the environment, and we can look for these products in the stores. We all want pretty green lawns, great vegetables to eat, and healthy trees and shrubs. Some lawn products are safe, and some are harmful. We should choose products that don't pollute our water. We need to read the labels and choose fertilizers that are environmentally friendly!



Finally, we can wash our cars at the car wash or on a grassy area. When we wash our cars, we may use soap that has harmful chemicals in it. Also, we wash off the oil and grease from our cars and these harmful products go right down the storm drain and out to the ocean. We need to choose our car washing soap carefully and be sure to wash our car where the water sinks into the soil or is recycled like at a car wash.



How will this help the fish that live in our ocean?



Sea life in the Puget Sound must have healthy water to survive. If too many chemicals and too many bacteria get into our water, then the fish are poisoned and can die. For example, **Taylor Shellfish** on the Olympic Peninsula produces oysters that are shipped around the world. Many people rely on this company and other shellfish producers to grow and harvest healthy oysters and clams. If we don't stop pollution, then our sea life may die.

We Can Make a Difference!

Here are three actions all of us can take to keep the water clean:

- **Scoop our dog poop**
- **Wash our car at a car wash or on a grassy surface**
- **Buy lawn products that do not harm the environment**

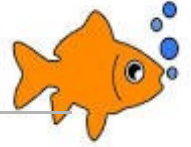
Tell your parents and your friends! All of us together can make a difference for our marine environment and the sea life that lives there!



For taking care of our environment!



Practice Task: Clean Water, Healthy Fish



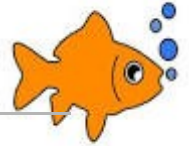
2. Which of the following types of pollution are discussed in the video but not in the article? (Claim 4, Target 2)

Select all that apply:

1. Grass Clippings
2. Oil from Cars
3. Pet Waste
4. Lawn Chemicals
5. Litter
6. Soap from Car Washing



Practice Task: Clean Water, Healthy Fish



PART 2: ESSAY (approx. 60-90 mins.)

Student Directions:

You will now have about 60-90 minutes to review your notes and sources, and then plan, draft, and revise your essay. While you may use your notes and refer to the sources, you must work on your own. Now read your assignment and the information about how your essay will be scored, and then begin your work.

Your Assignment:

You have been asked to help other students learn about the importance of clean water for healthy fish. In your essay, explain how stormwater gets polluted, why this is bad for fish, and actions we can take to keep our ocean water clean. Your essay will be shared with other students so that more people can learn about the simple things we can do so that our fish in the Puget Sound stay healthy.

How your essay will be scored:

The people scoring your essay will be assigning scores for

1. **Statement of Purpose/Focus** – how well you clearly state and maintain your controlling idea or main idea
2. **Organization** – how well the ideas progress from the introduction to the conclusion using effective transitions and how well you stay on topic throughout the essay.
3. **Elaboration of Evidence** – how well you provide evidence from sources about your topic and elaborate with specific information.
4. **Language and Vocabulary** – how well you effectively express ideas using precise language that is appropriate for your audience and purpose
5. **Conventions** – how well you follow the rules of usage, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling

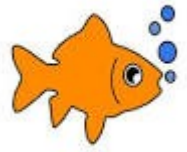
Now begin work on your essay.

Manage your time carefully so that you can:

- plan your essay
- write your essay
- revise and edit for a final draft



Practice Task: Clean Water, Healthy Fish



Organizing My Essay: Keeping Our Water Clean

Introduction	
How stormwater gets polluted	
Why this is bad for fish	
What we can do to keep stormwater clean: Idea #1	
What we can do to keep stormwater clean: Idea #2	
Conclusion	

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