

## **Water Pollution Inquiry Unit Plan**

The project/unit was initially started in the fall after the flood, but the actual content for the project began in January. It took about 3 weeks.

### **IMMERSE:** (Week 1 - background knowledge)

Day 1-2: The first few lessons began with instruction and education on where drinking water comes from. This was done through read-alouds, videos, and class discussions.

Day 3: Students completed a “How do I use water?” bubble sheet

Day 4: Students made a water collage demonstrating their understanding of the importance of fresh water using pictures from magazines.

Day 5: With the assistance of my district technology coordinator, students used iPods to view a video using a QR code to identify different fresh water resources and new information about water usage.

### **INVESTIGATE:** (Week 2 - research)

Day 1: An inference lesson took place where students worked with partners to learn about different types of water pollution using photographs. First I modeled with a large poster, then students worked with partners. Students questioned and discussed what was happening in the pictures in order to promote a class discussion on different types of water pollution and ways to prevent it.

Day 2-3: We spent two days watching videos and participating in class discussions about water pollution. I read pollution books during my mini-lessons in reader’s workshop, and students explored similar books during that time as well.

Day 4-5: Students then began researching different types of water pollution and ways to prevent it using iPods/iPads and QR codes that showed videos, as well as websites and books.

### **COALESCE AND GO PUBLIC:** (Week 3 - Project week)

Day 1-4: Students worked with partners to create water pollution prevention posters in order to educate others on ways to keep our water clean. Students were given a rubric to guide their creations, but had a lot of freedom in the appearance of the posters.

Day 5: They presented these posters to other students and adults in the community. The posters were then displayed in the hallway for others to see.