

# Water Warriors Activity Book



**SAVE WATER  
WITH DEWEY**

*(suggested for ages 7 and up)*



Colorado Springs Utilities  
*It's how we're all connected*

**Presented by Colorado Springs Utilities  
and Partners**

# Water Warrior Pledge



**SAVE WATER**

I pledge to take the following actions:  
(check all that you can do)

- Turn off the water while I brush my teeth.
- Turn off the water while lathering when I wash my hands.
- Scrape instead of rinse my dishes before putting them in the dishwasher.
- Only put my clothes in the laundry if they are dirty.
- Shorten my shower time to 5 minutes or fill the tub only half full.
- Bring a bag to scoop the pet waste when I walk my dog.
- Pick up litter when I see it and tell my friends not to litter.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

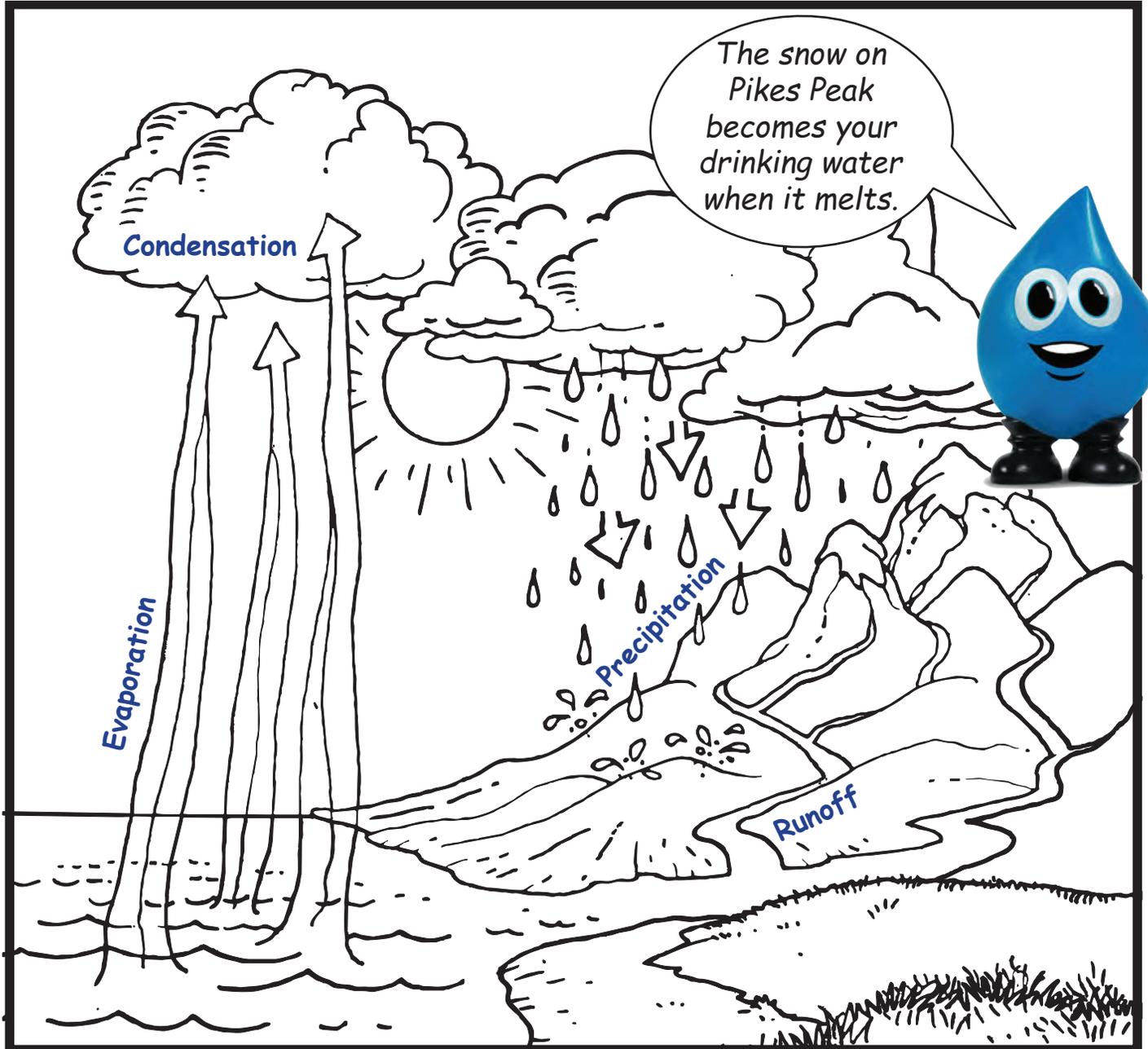
- 💧 Your water is some of the best in the USA.
- 💧 You use an average of 72 gallons of water a day.
- 💧 Your water is mostly snowmelt that comes from the Rocky Mountains as far as 100 miles away.
- 💧 Colorado Springs only gets an average of 16 inches of precipitation a year. Use water wisely!

**YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE - BE A WATER WARRIOR TODAY.**

# Where Does Water Come From?

**Activity:** Color each part of the Water Cycle and answer the question.

What are the four types of precipitation? \_\_\_\_\_



Water moves in a cycle. Water falls to earth as rain, snow, sleet or hail. It evaporates into the air, condenses to form clouds, and falls back to earth again as fresh water.

**Action:** Hike or fish at a drinking water reservoir on Pikes Peak.

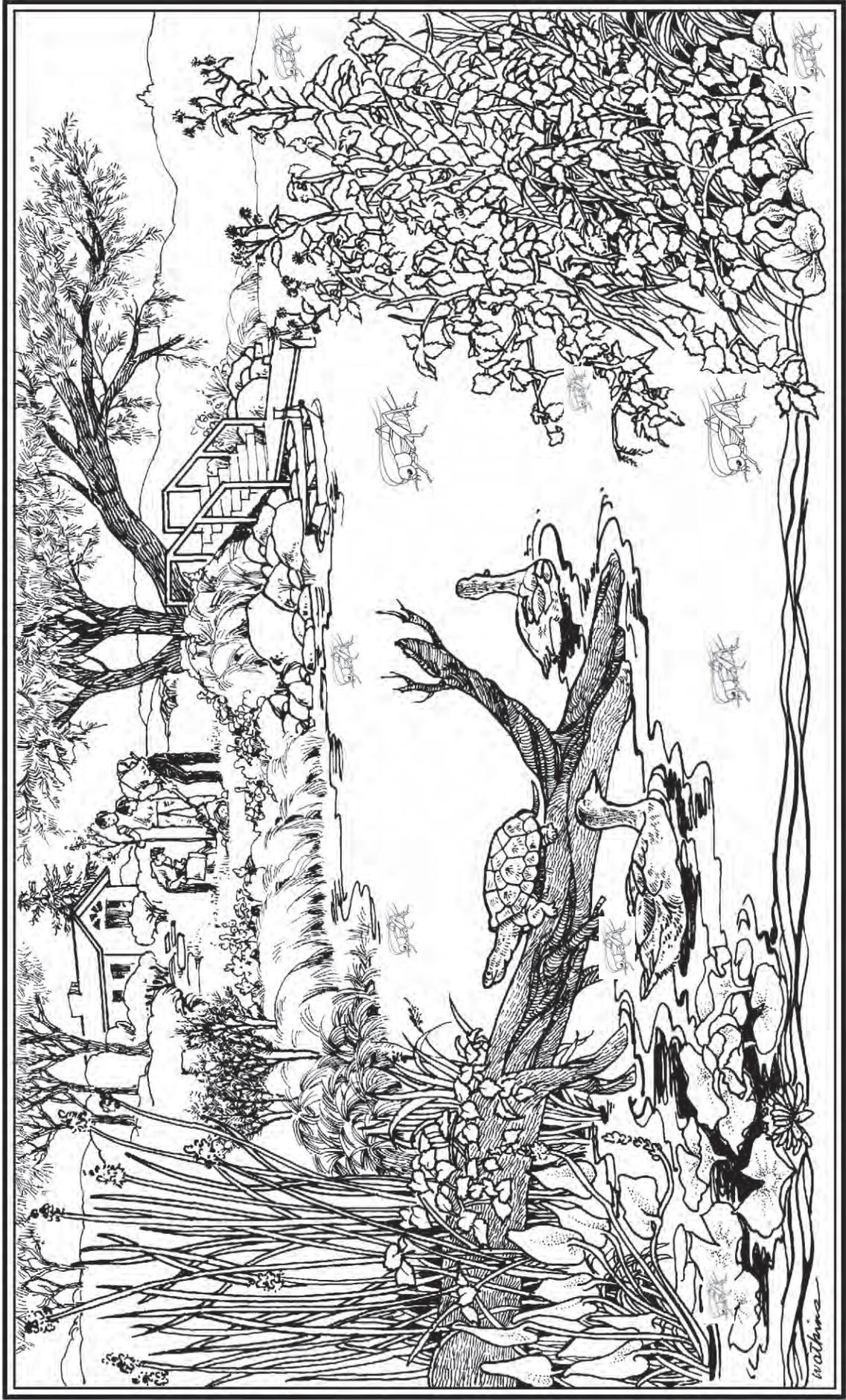
# Sticky Water



Imagine you could shrink down to the size of a tiny water molecule. You'd see that water molecules are sticky! This stickiness creates an invisible skin on top of water called surface tension. That's how bugs can walk on water!

**Activity:** Find and circle 10 bugs on the pond. Color the picture.

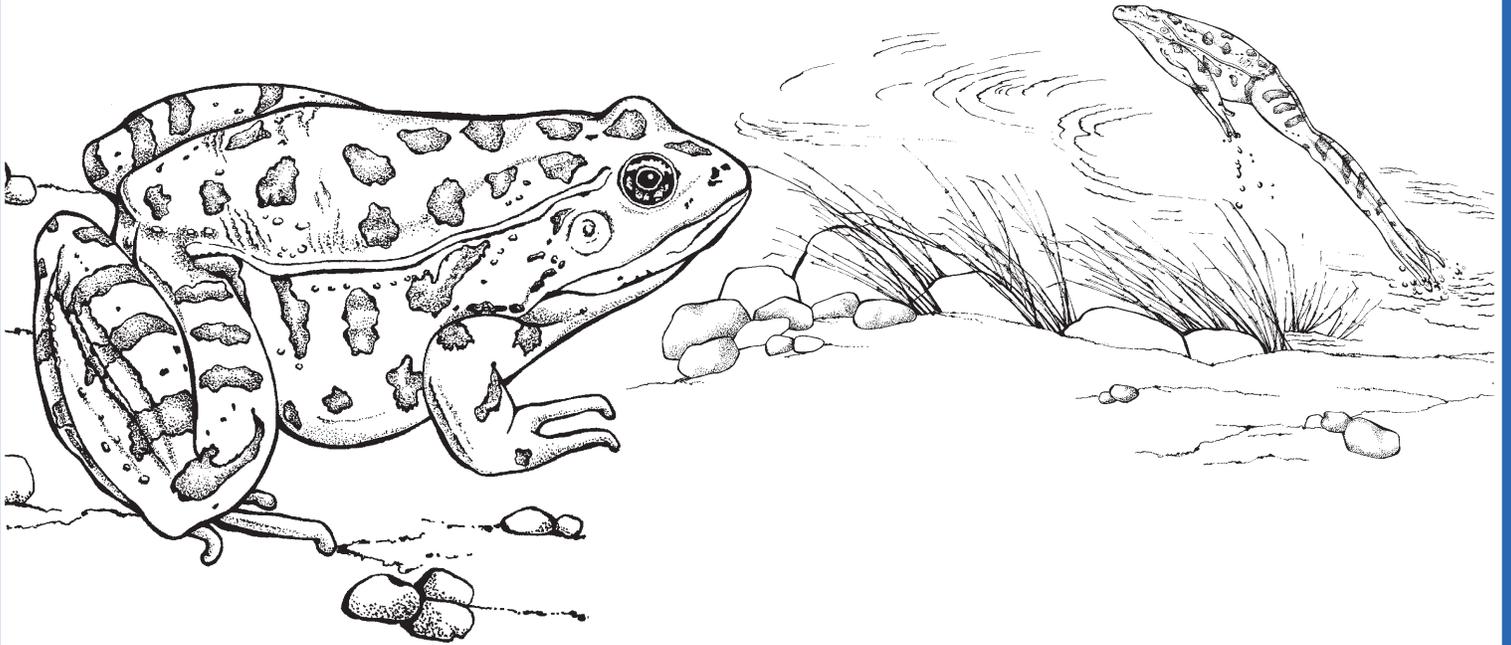
**Action:** Learn more about wildlife at the Fountain Creek Nature Center.



*Watkins*

# Water Provides Habitat

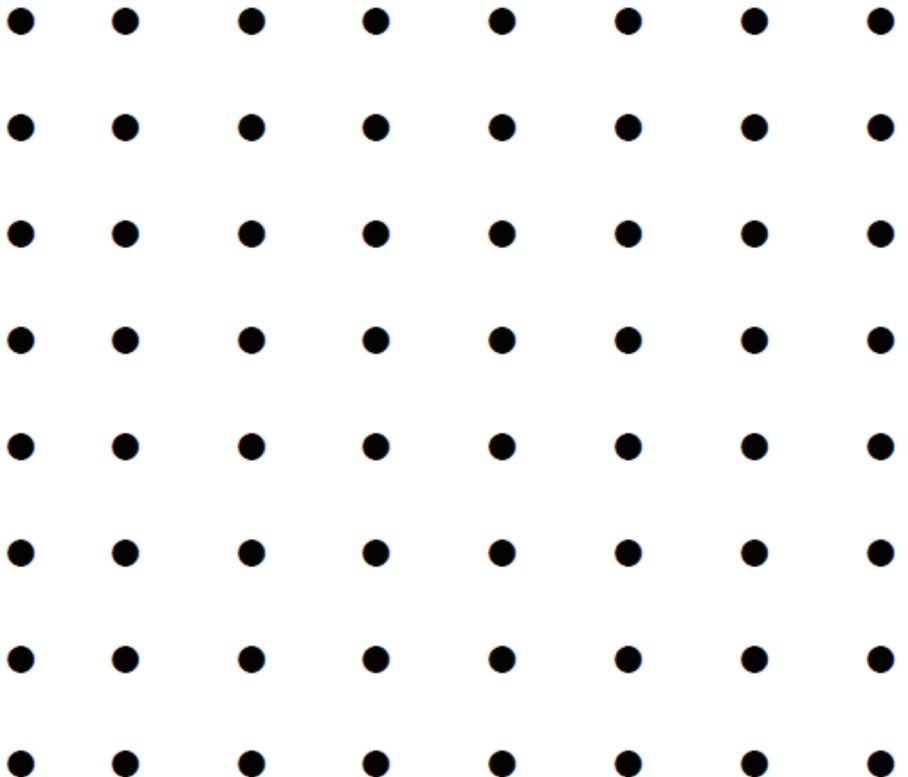
Plains Leopard Frogs have brown bodies with black spots. They live near lakes, streams and ponds.



## Activity:

Color the Leopard Frogs and play the game below. Form boxes while telling the other player about another animal that lives near water.

Directions: Take turns adding a horizontal or vertical line between two dots. The player who completes the fourth side of each box writes their initials in that box. They earn one point, and take another turn. The player with the most initialed boxes is the winner!



## Action:

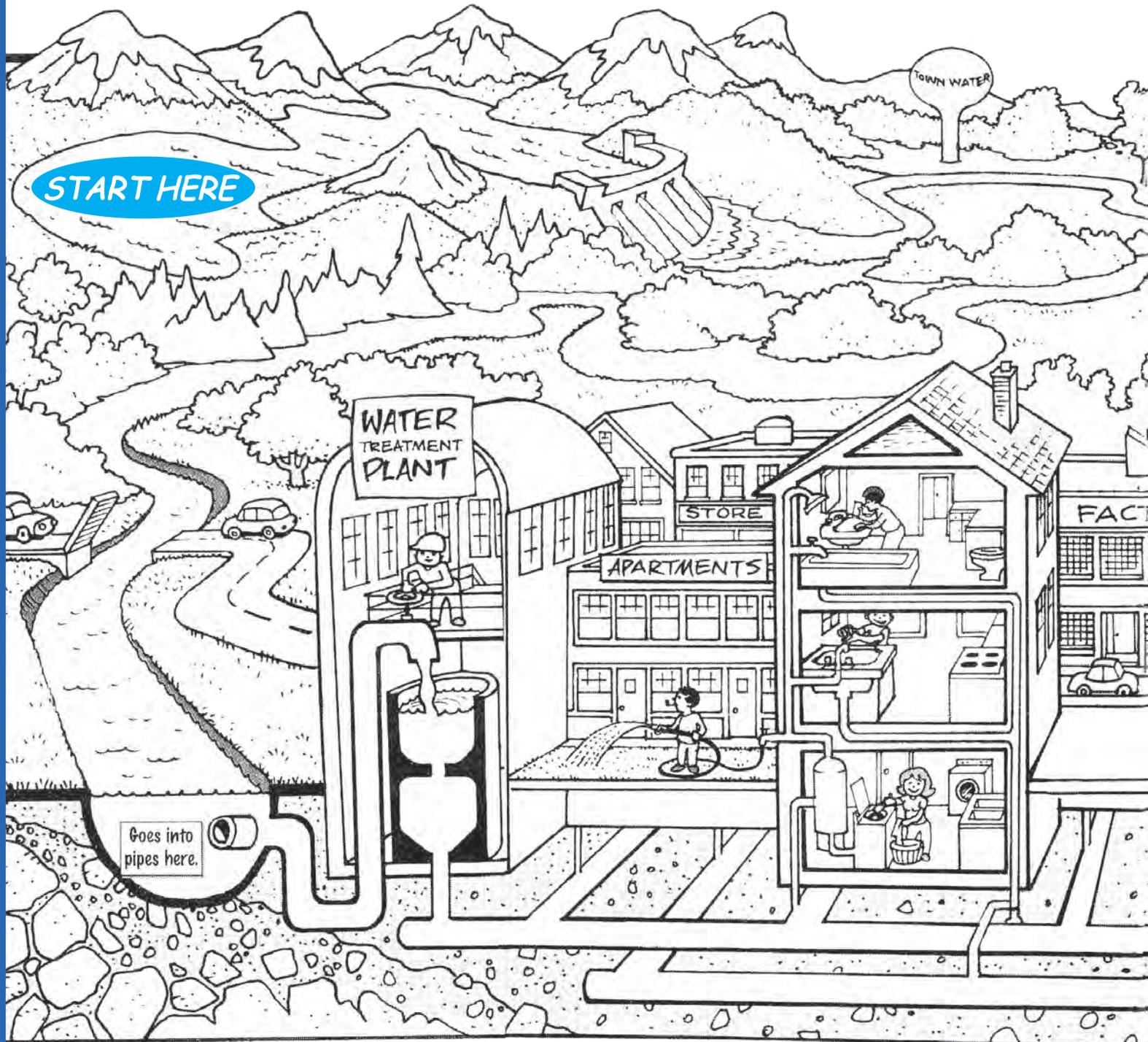
Visit a Colorado State Park and look for Leopard Frogs near water.

# How Does Water Get to You?

## Activity:

Follow the directions below to discover how water travels from the Rocky Mountains to your home.

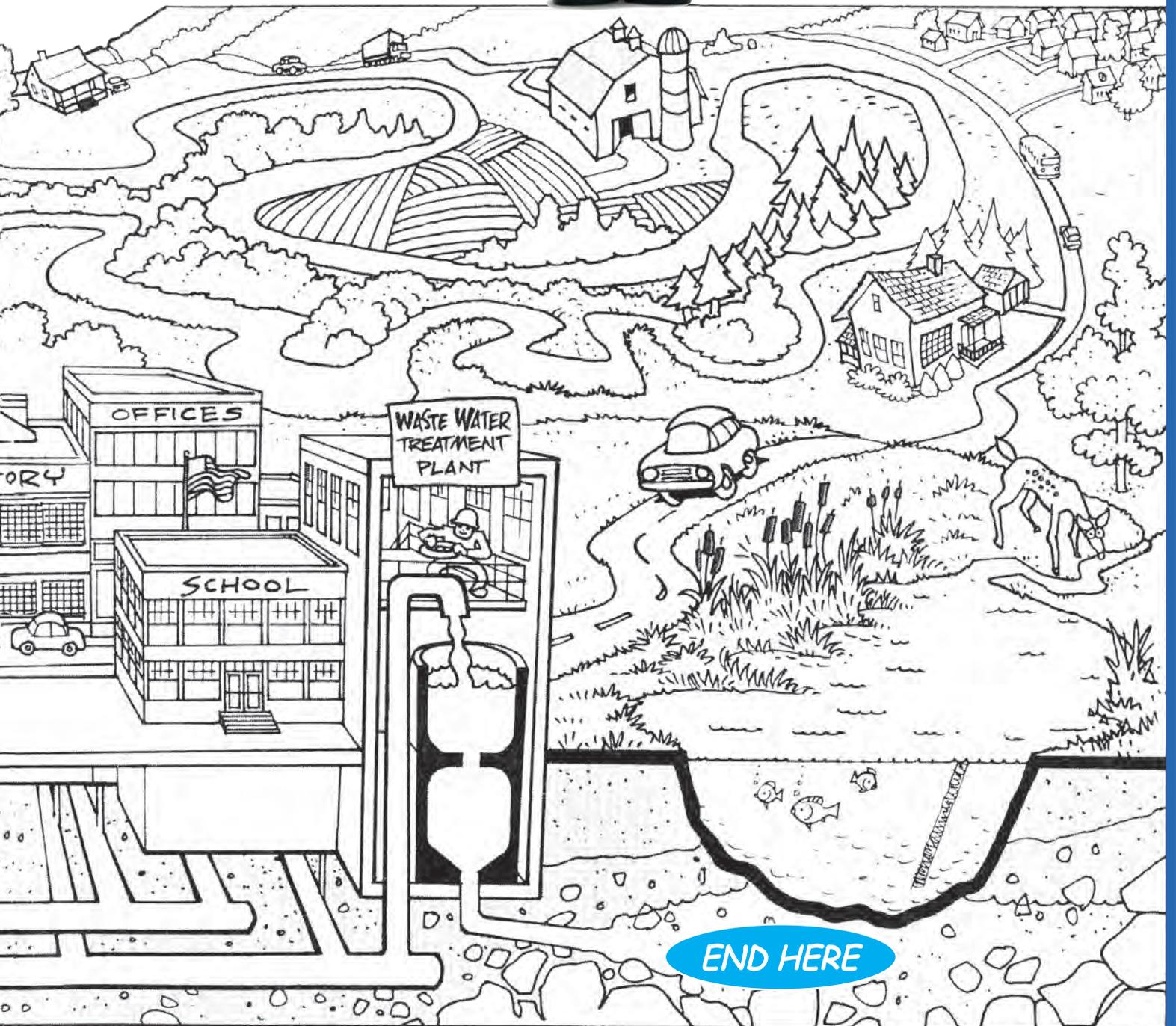
1. Use a blue marker and trace the water's path from the mountains to the sink in the house.
2. Circle all the places where water is being used in the house.
3. Use a red marker to trace the water's path after it has washed the person's hands on the middle floor.



Your water is cleaned at a treatment plant before it reaches your home so that it is safe to drink!



The water you use is cleaned again at a wastewater treatment plant before it is returned to the creek.



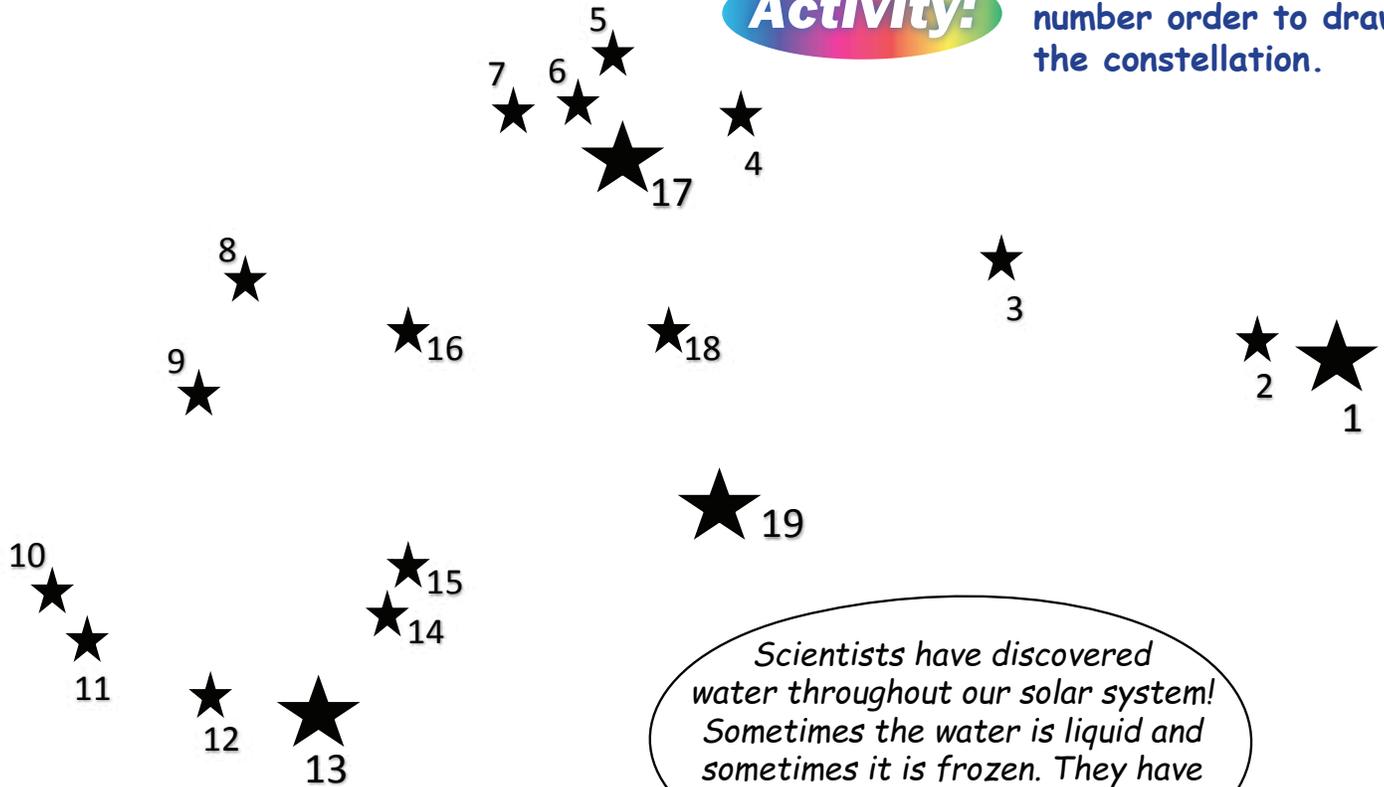
END HERE

# Connect the Constellation

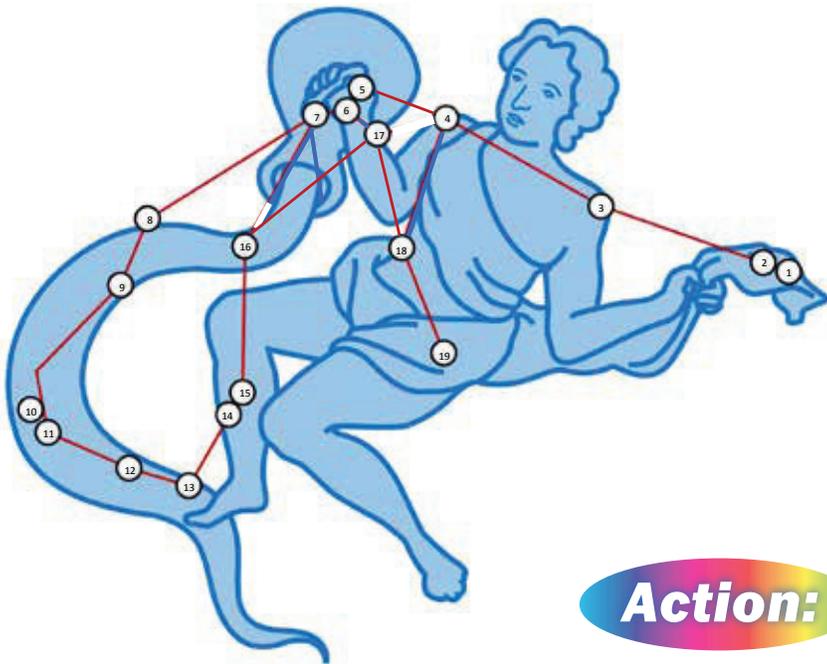
## Aquarius the Water Bearer

### Activity:

Connect the stars in number order to draw the constellation.



Scientists have discovered water throughout our solar system! Sometimes the water is liquid and sometimes it is frozen. They have found ice and water on planets, moons and more.



### Action:

Visit the Space Foundation Discovery Center to learn more.

# From Storm Cloud to Storm Drain



## Activity:

Help Dewey solve the maze and learn what pollutants should never go down a storm drain.

When it rains, water flows over streets, sidewalks and parking lots. Storm drains are openings in the ground that collect stormwater to prevent flooding. Underground pipes carry this stormwater to nearby creeks.

Stormwater is not cleaned at a water treatment plant before entering the creeks. Anything picked up along the way, like trash or dirt, ends up in our waterways!

## Action:

Never put anything down a storm drain. Pick up litter and pet waste when you walk your dog.

**Stormwater Route**  
Water from storms soaks into the ground or flows into gutters

**Lawns**  
Keep grass, leaves & yard chemicals out of gutters

**Littering**  
Don't throw litter into gutters

**Construction Sites**  
Contain dirt & debris so they don't wash into waterways

**Street Runoff**  
Proper car maintenance helps prevent fluid leaks

**Driveways**  
Sweep driveway dirt onto the lawn, not into the gutter. Wash cars on the grass

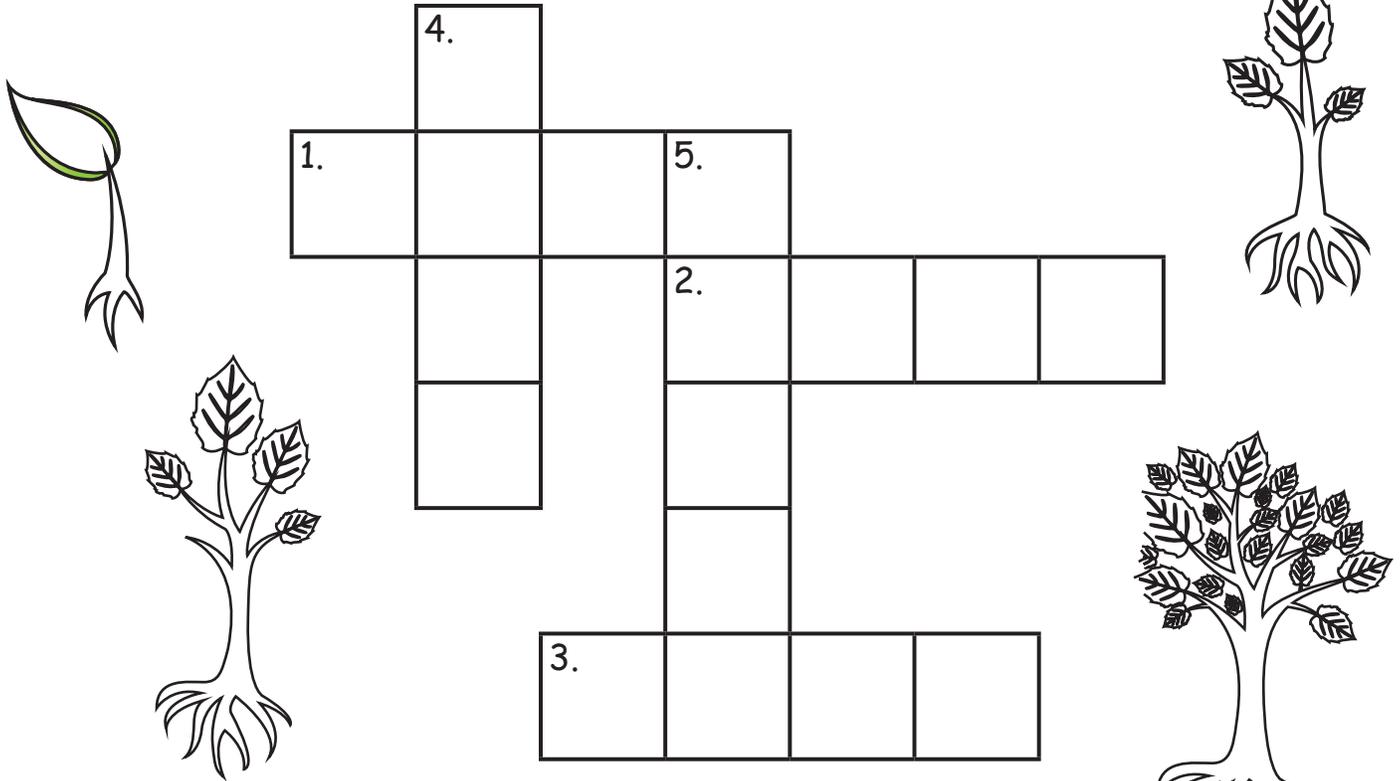
**Pet Waste**  
Dispose in trash or down toilet

Storm Drain (Gutter)

# Way to Grow! Crossword Puzzle

People and animals need plants to survive. The basic ingredients of everything we eat come from soil and water.

**Activity:** Use the word bank to complete the puzzle.



## Across

1. I make food for the plant.
2. I take in food and water from the soil.
3. I hold the plant up.

## Down

4. Inside me is a baby plant and all the food it needs to sprout.
5. I have seeds inside.

Native plants  
need less water.  
Find some at  
[waterwiseplants.org](http://waterwiseplants.org)



Word Bank: stem seed leaf root fruit

## Action:

Pick up a free packet of native flower seeds at the Colorado Springs Utilities Conservation & Environmental Center and plant them.

# Ancient Rocks Formed By Water

The rocks at the Garden of the Gods Park tell a story about what the land looked like long ago. Millions of years ago this area was an ocean. The type of rocks in the Park, and the fossils found in them, tell us the story of ancient water.

These pictures show what the Colorado Springs area may have looked like 80 million years ago:



Fossils at Garden of the Gods include ammonites (am-muh-nites) and baculites (bak-yoo-lites). These creatures looked like squids, but had straight or curved shells. These animals died or became extinct when the dinosaurs died! Can you find these creatures in the pictures? Can you find the ancient shark?

**Activity:** Unscramble the words.

tawer \_\_\_\_\_

catinnie \_\_\_\_\_

sosifl \_\_\_\_\_

aceon \_\_\_\_\_

rengad \_\_\_\_\_

karp \_\_\_\_\_

corks \_\_\_\_\_



This shark tooth fossil shows that this area was once underwater.

**Action:**

Visit the Garden of the Gods Visitor Center to learn more.

# Water Detective Experiment

**Activity:** Complete the ice dig activity and solve the word search.

Pretend you are a paleontologist on a dig during the Ice Age! A paleontologist is a scientist that studies fossils, or the remains of plants and animals from long ago.

Directions: Place several small items or toys in a plastic container. Spread them out so they are not touching. Pour water into the container until the items are completely covered. Place the container in the freezer until the water is frozen. Once frozen, pop the ice out of the container and place it on a hard surface. Use a small hammer or mallet to break the items out of the ice!



Water can be a solid, liquid or gas. During the Ice Age thousands of years ago, huge sheets of ice called glaciers covered parts of the Earth.



## Water Word Search

- Water
- Stream
- Pollution
- Treatment
- Well
- Filter
- Pipes
- Safe
- Tank
- Lake

P	M	A	E	R	T	S	B	G	T
X	O	B	F	L	A	K	E	H	R
W	T	L	I	D	J	O	Q	T	E
P	A	X	L	L	L	E	W	L	A
I	N	T	T	U	G	V	P	U	T
P	F	O	E	Y	T	D	W	C	M
E	V	S	R	R	A	I	M	K	E
S	T	R	Z	B	N	P	O	Y	N
N	E	F	A	S	K	W	A	N	T

**Action:**

Visit the Pikes Peak Library District and check out a book about water.

# Water Warrior Decoder

## Activity:

Decode the words below to learn about Colorado Springs' water.

1 = A	5 = E	9 = I	13 = M	17 = Q	21 = U	25 = Y
2 = B	6 = F	10 = J	14 = N	18 = R	22 = V	26 = Z
3 = C	7 = G	11 = K	15 = O	19 = S	23 = W	
4 = D	8 = H	12 = L	16 = P	20 = T	24 = X	

Drinking water in 3 15 12 15 18 1 4 15

19 16 18 9 14 7 19 comes from 20 8 18 5 5

watersheds: the 3 15 12 15 18 1 4 15

18 9 22 5 18, the 1 18 11 1 14 19 1 19

River, and the 19 15 21 20 8

16 12 1 20 20 5 River.

19 14 15 23 13 5 12 20 is

collected in the 18 15 3 11 25

13 15 21 14 20 1 9 14 19

and 20 18 1 22 5 12 19

up to 100 13 9 12 5 19 in

16 9 16 5 12 9 14 5 19 to get to

20 15 23 14.

## Action:

Participate in a Creek Week litter cleanup with the Fountain Creek Watershed District.

Solve this puzzle to find out how far I had to travel to get to your house!



# Water-Libs



**Activity:** Fill in the blanks and then read the story for hilarious results.

Last week, my friends and I took a hike to

the \_\_\_\_\_ creek near our city of  
adjective

\_\_\_\_\_. The creek ran through an open  
place

field and some \_\_\_\_\_ trees. It really was  
adjective

a \_\_\_\_\_ place to see! After we hiked along  
adjective

the creek, we decided to go \_\_\_\_\_  
verb ending in -ing

down the creek to learn more about the watershed.

Some of the creek's flow is diverted into a reservoir

that stores Colorado Springs drinking water. Some of those reservoirs offer

a chance to \_\_\_\_\_! In the creek water we saw sediment that eroded  
verb

from nearby hills. We also saw a \_\_\_\_\_ floating in the water. We have to  
noun

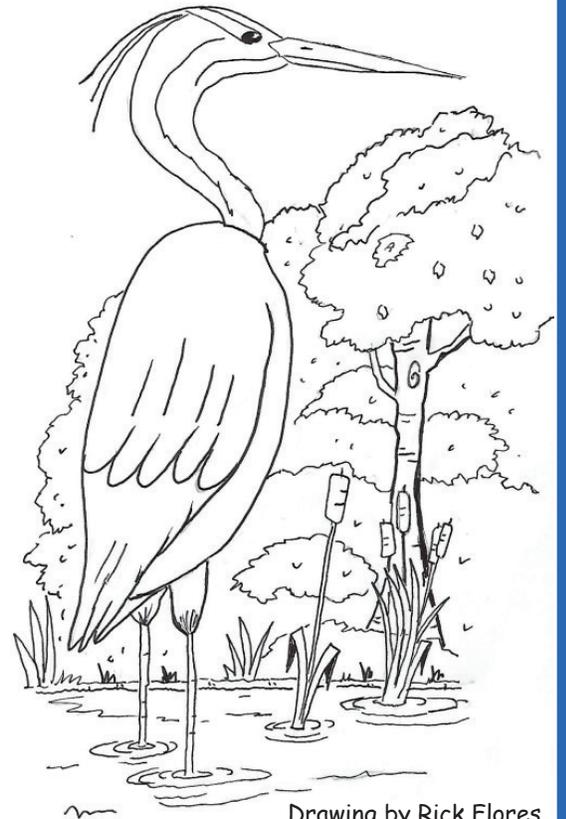
keep this water clean! There were small trout in the creek and a \_\_\_\_\_  
adjective

\_\_\_\_\_ on the shore. Suddenly we saw \_\_\_\_\_ had  
animal proper name

\_\_\_\_\_ into the water. My friend discovered a \_\_\_\_\_. We  
verb ending in -ed natural object

shouted: \_\_\_\_\_! We took it back to school to study under a microscope.  
funny expression

Creeks are always so much \_\_\_\_\_.  
adjective



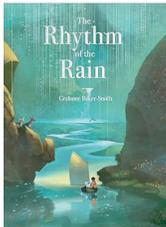
Drawing by Rick Flores



**Action:**

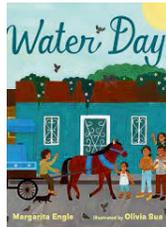
Visit the creek  
at the Bear Creek  
Nature Center.

# Water Books



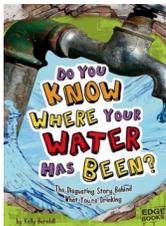
**The Rhythm of the Rain**  
Baker-Smith, Graham

A breathtaking picture book about the water cycle.  
*For ages 5 & up*



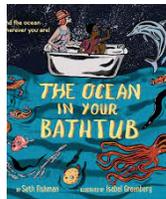
**Water Day**  
Engle, Margarita

This Cuban village celebrates the weekly arrival of the water man.  
*For ages 4 - 8*



**Do You Know Where Your Water Has Been?**  
Barnhill, Kelly

Describes the history of water treatment and current water treatment systems. *Reading level 4.3*



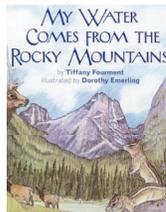
**The Ocean in Your Bathtub**  
Fishman, Seth

See how we can make a difference in our ocean world.  
*For Grades 1 - 5.*



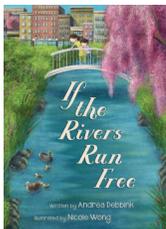
**The Story of Snow: The Science of Winter's Wonder**  
Cassino, Mark with Jon Nelson, Ph.D.

Tells the story of snow. Features snow crystals in their beautiful diversity and explains snow crystal formation.  
*Reading Level 4.8*



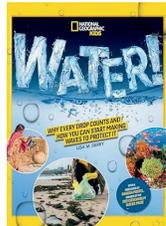
**My Water Comes from the Rocky Mountains**  
Fourment, Tiffany

Introduces children to our nation's watershed: the Continental Divide.  
*For ages 6 & up*



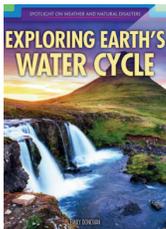
**If the Rivers Run Free**  
Debbink, Andrea

Explores how city planners created problems by building over and near rivers and how to manage these waterways. *For Grades 1 - 5.*



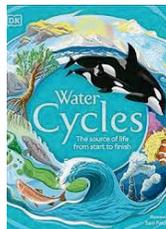
**National Geographic Kids: Water**  
Gerry, Lisa M.

Discusses the importance of water and how to protect it.  
*For Grades 4 - 6.*



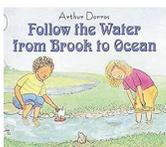
**Exploring Earth's Water Cycle**  
Donovan, Emily

Explains the water cycle and also explains water on Earth.  
*For Grades 1 - 5.*



**Water Cycles: The Source of Life from Start to Finish**  
Harvey, Derek

Explore the Water Cycle and learn how it affects life on Earth.  
*For Grades 2 - 6.*



**Follow the Water from Brook to Ocean**  
Dorros, Arthur

Follows the flow of water to the ocean. *Reading Level 3.6*

# Thank you to our partners!



parcs · recreation · cultural services  
GARDEN OF THE GODS



Conservation & Environmental Center  
2855 Mesa Road, 80904  
Monday through Friday  
8am-12pm, 1pm-5pm



Colorado Springs Utilities  
*It's how we're all connected*

## FREE Showerhead

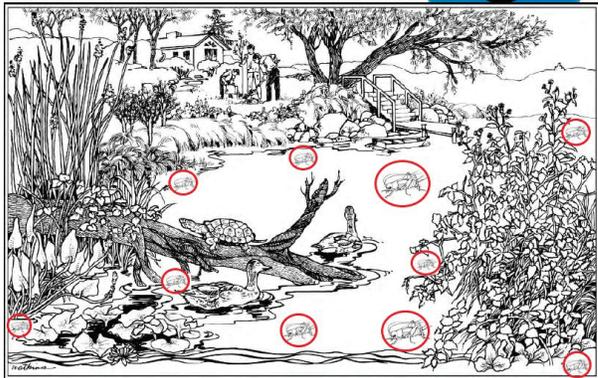
**EXCHANGE** up to 2 of your showerheads for a WaterSense® showerhead and save \$85 in water, wastewater, and energy costs a year.

## FREE Dewey!

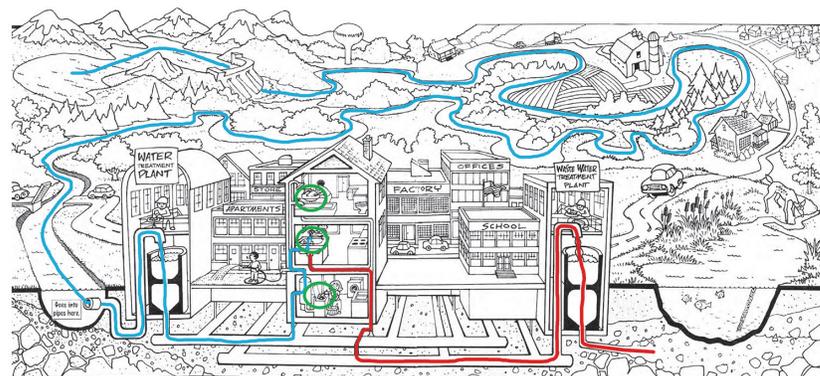
Visit our House Efficiency Exhibits and the Water Wise Gardens and receive a free Dewey Squeeze Ball.

Page 2 rain, snow, sleet, hail

Page 3

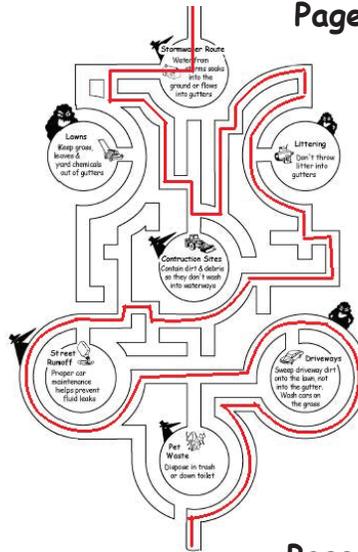


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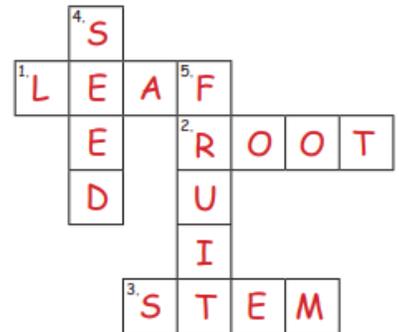


## Answer Key

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water, ancient, fossil, ocean, garden, park, rocks

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