



Kern County Water Agency

5th Grade Water Education WebQuest

- ✓ Overview
- ✓ Introduction
 - ✓ Task
 - ✓ Steps
 - ✓ Final Task
- ✓ Teacher Resources
(State Standards & Water Education Links)



Overview

This Water Education WebQuest was designed to help 5th grade students in Kern County develop a better understanding of local and state water supplies and the importance of water for the people and the economy of California.

The following learning objective will be covered in the WebQuest:

Students will learn about the local water sources by doing research on the Internet and creating a poster that displays the impact that water has on Kern County.





Introduction

You have a farm in Kern County. For many years, your farm has grown vegetables and almonds that are shipped to grocery stores all over the United States.

In the past, the farm has been very successful because the fertile soil and mild climate in Kern County is perfect for growing crops. However, this year due to the water crisis you have not been able to plant row crops (vegetables) or give your almond trees the amount of water they need.

As a result, your crop's productivity has been greatly reduced. You are going to have to cut the hours that your employees work, and you are beginning to feel the effects in your farming business.





Task

As the owner of the farm, you are concerned about the shortage of water and the effect that it will have on you and your employees. You decide that you would like to create a poster that explains the current water conditions to the people who work on your farm.

In order to create a comprehensive poster, you determine that you need to take the following steps:

Step #1: Research the science of water and the supply of water on the Earth.

Step #2: Study local and state water supplies for Kern County.

Step #3: Research California's current Water Crisis.

Print the Water Supply Worksheet by clicking ([here](#)) and use it to help you with your Internet research.



Final Task: Once you have done all your research using the Internet, you are ready to create your poster.



Step #1 – Internet Research

Step #1: Research the science of water and where most of the water on the Earth is located.

Use the following Internet links to help answer the questions for step #1 on the Water Supply Worksheet.

The Science of Water links:

[Water Education Foundation](#)

[ACWA Water Facts](#)

[U.S. Geological Survey](#)

[H2O University](#)

[Build Your Own Water Cycle](#)





Step #2 – Internet Research

Step #2: Study local and state water supplies for Kern County.

Use the following Internet links to help answer the questions for step #2 on the Water Supply Worksheet.

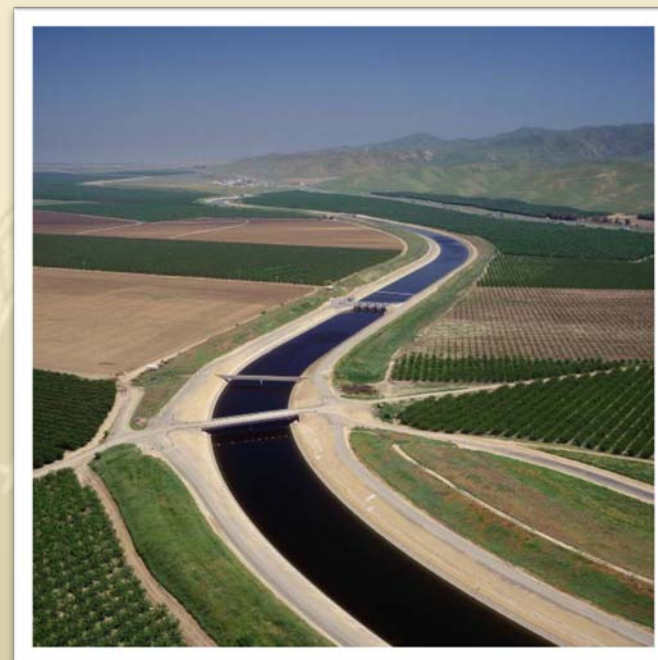
Kern County Water Supply Links:

[Water Education Foundation](#)

[Department of Water Resources](#)

[What is Groundwater?](#)

[Kern County Water Agency](#)





Step #3 – Internet Research

Step #3: Find the reasons for the drought and what the possible solutions may be.

Use the following Internet links to help answer the questions for step #3 on the Water Supply Worksheet.

California Drought Links:

[California Drought](#)

[Drought Impacts](#)

[California's Water Crisis](#)

[California Farm Water Coalition](#)





Final Task

Now that all of your research is done, you are ready to make your poster for the employees on the farm. Use the knowledge that you gained from your Internet research to address the following topics:

1. Where Kern County's water comes from.
2. Why California is in a drought.
3. What the possible solutions for the drought are.

Once you complete your poster, you may send it to the Water Education Department at the following address:

Kern County Water Agency
P.O. Box 58
Bakersfield, CA 93302

A graphic of a white notepad with a blue spiral binding on the left side. The text "Be Creative!" is written in a blue, serif font on the notepad. The notepad is tilted slightly to the right.

Be
Creative!



Teacher Resources

5th Grade California State Standards Covered in WebQuest

Earth Science

3. Water on Earth moves between the oceans and land through the processes of evaporation and condensation. **3.a.** Students know that most of the Earth's water is present as salt water in the oceans. **3.d.** Students know that the amount of fresh water located in rivers, lakes, underground sources, and glaciers is limited and that its availability can be extended by recycling and decreasing the use of water. **3.e.** Students know the origin of water used by their local communities.

Water Education Links for Teachers:

[Kern County Water Agency](#)

[Water Education Foundation School Programs](#)

[Project WET](#)

[California Water Awareness Campaign-Free Teacher Materials](#)