



SplashFlash

Teacher to Teacher

Here's what local teachers are saying about Splash:

The Splash program's bioassay materials provide us with another water quality monitoring tool for our project. Its curriculum focuses on the local history and current issues of Sacramento area watersheds.

—Cindy Suchanek

Environmental Science Instructor
Mira Loma High School
www.arcadecreekproject.org

Splash is an eye-opener to how our human actions on land affect our watersheds. The learning activities provide a way for students to understand how we plan our community infrastructure and how we can monitor the impact our plans have on the environment in our own neighborhoods.

—Charmaine Boulmay, Biology/Earth Science Instructor, Center High School

I like Splash because it allows me to teach students real hands-on applications to water quality testing, such as bioassays using *Daphnia*. Splash also makes students aware of environmental surroundings, [so they are]... more likely to become problem solvers of water pollution.

—Matt Tozzi, Integrated Science I & II Instructor, Center High School

Splash has given students the opportunity to analyze local water sources by providing the tools to perform bioassays. Through hands-on activities and reading materials, they can theorize the probable causes of water pollution in our watersheds. As a result students have an understanding of the causes and consequences of poor water quality locally and globally.

—Kelli Kosney, Biology Instructor
Sheldon High School

Contact Information

For more information, please:

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What is Splash?

Splash is a place-based environmental science program offered to teachers within Sacramento County. Splash draws connections between aquatic life, water quality and the way we live in our watersheds. High school students meet myriad small creatures whose survival depends on clean water. Their connection to this intricate web of life empowers them to join community efforts to protect water and habitat where they live.



Photo courtesy Bruce Russell

Splash brings stream life to the classroom for closer examination.

The Splash High School Program

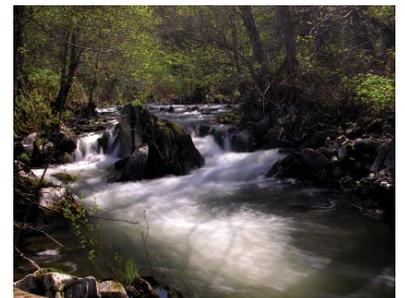
While some science curricula require hours of preparation, *Life in Our Watershed: Investigating Streams and Water Quality* allows teachers to dive right in with their students. The Splash DVD opens a window into the fascinating, underwater world of aquatic insects and other benthic macroinvertebrates (BMIs). The three lessons of the curriculum are supported by watching the DVD, reading the Student Handbook, and responding to questions in the Student Workbook.

Lesson 1 – With a Splash pictorial guide and a dissecting microscope, students identify preserved BMIs, learn their life histories, and conduct a bioassessment to gauge stream health.

Lesson 2 – Students measure the toxicity of water samples using a *Daphnia* bioassay. Splash provides live *Daphnia* and the equipment to conduct this hands-on laboratory.

Lesson 3 – Students master plan a town and discover how local development decisions affect streams and our own communities.

To be eligible, teachers must devote at least five class periods to Splash lessons. A four-hour workshop provides all the guidance needed to use the logical, cohesive and teacher-friendly curriculum. Check it out at www.sacsplash.org.



Standards Alignment: The Splash curriculum is aligned with the California science standards and integrates standards for language arts, American government, and math. Standards are listed for each lesson in the Teacher's Manual. The curriculum is suitable for Grades 10 and 11, either for General Science or more advanced classes.

Funding for Splash is provided by the Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District, Sacramento County Water Resources and the City of Sacramento Department of Utilities.