

TALES OF THE ENVIRONMENTALLY CONSCIOUS ROBOT

GRADES 3-12

MATERIALS

Writing materials
Library or computer access

DEFINITION

Watershed: An area of land that drains to a common point.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Environmentally Conscious Robot is a character who cares a great deal about watersheds and has made it his goal to remind us all about them.

A watershed is an area of land that drains to a common point (common water body). Watersheds are all around us. Everywhere you go, you are in a watershed! Understanding what watersheds are, how they function, and how our human activity affects them is essential to understanding how to better care for the land and protect the quality of our water.

These enhanced learning activities take inspiration from the Environmentally Conscious Robot's quest. They are intended to encourage awareness of watersheds and how human activities in a watershed affect water quality.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. The Environmentally Conscious Robot desperately wants us to know about watersheds. Do some research on the topic of watersheds. How do they function? How do they relate to current environmental concerns? Why is educating people about watersheds important?
2. Write a short, entertaining story about the Environmentally Conscious Robot. Who does he try to tell about watersheds? What does he try to tell them? To what lengths will he go to get his message across? Make sure your story reflects your research on the function of watersheds and the value of watershed education.
3. Share your stories with your class and school!

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

<http://www.iowadnr.gov/Environmental-Protection/Water-Quality/Watershed-Improvement/Watershed-Basics>
<http://pubs.usgs.gov/fs/fs07603/>
<http://www2.epa.gov/ms-htf/hypoxia-101>