



Overview

Where do mountain raindrops go?

Where Do Mountain Raindrops Go? is a collection of kids' mountain ground water activities designed for students in grades four and five. This environmental education program includes materials for a group lesson or activity on ground water in a fractured rock environment. It can be used in a classroom, other group learning environment (i.e. nature centers, scouts, environmental camps, etc.), or outdoors. This program is based on a Colorado study, so local references are to Colorado.

In addition to the group classroom piece, there are puzzles and activities designed for independent use by students. These are suitable for classroom use or as take-home activities.

The program materials are presented in two parts—the Teacher Guide and the Student Packet.

Where Do Mountain Raindrops Go? is available free by downloading from this website. Printed copies are not available. This was created as a companion kids' educational piece to **"Water Smarts – A Homeowner's Guide to Mountain Ground Water."** **Water Smarts** is the product of a Clean Water Act, Section 319 Grant administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. It was published in June of 2002 by the Jefferson County Planning and Zoning Department, and can be found online under "Guides" at <http://planning.jeffco.us>. A limited number of hard copies are available by calling (303)271-8765 or e-mailing pschenem@jeffco.us.

Lesson Plan

Grade Level: 4-5

Objectives: Understand ground water and how it can become contaminated

Subject Area: Science and Mountain Ground Water

Duration: 1 hour or several ½ hour activities

Linkage to Colorado State Standards Science

1-Students understand the processes of scientific investigation and design, conduct, communicate about, and evaluate such investigations.

2.1-Students know that matter has characteristic properties which are related to its structure.

4.3-Students know major sources of water, its uses, importance, and cyclic patterns of movement through the environment.

5 -Students know and understand interrelationships among science, technology, and human activity and how they can affect the world.

Sponsor Websites (* "Water Smarts" Link)

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Environmental Education*
http://www.epa.gov/region8/env_ed/

Jefferson County Planning and Zoning Department*
<http://planning.jeffco.us>

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Education*
<http://www.usgs.gov/education/index.html>

USGS Water Science for Schools
<http://ga.water.usgs.gov/edu/>

USGS Water Poster
<http://water.usgs.gov/outreach/OutReach.html>

Colorado State University Cooperative Extension in Jefferson County*
<http://extension.jeffco.us>



Teacher Guide

- **Where Do Mountain Raindrops Go?** - Enhanced Teacher Version
- **Classroom Activity on Ground Water Movement** with list of **Follow-Up Activities** and website link to U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) water poster entitled **"Ground Water The Hidden Resource"**

Student Packet

- **Where Do Mountain Raindrops Go?** - Student Version
- **Follow-Up Activities**
 - Draw A Well and Septic
 - Investigate Your Home Well and Septic System
 - Word Search Puzzle
 - Crossword Puzzle
 - Water Maze

Where Do Mountain Raindrops Go? is the result of a collaborative effort between the Jefferson County Planning and Zoning Department, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Geological Survey, and the Colorado State University Cooperative Extension in Jefferson County.