

WATER CONSERVATION DATA JAM

Curriculum Unit for 6-12 Grade Students

Welcome! This unit was designed to introduce 6-12 grade students to climate change and water use in the Southwest. The activities in this guide are appropriate for both formal and informal education settings, and they can be modified to fit the needs of students. All activities are aligned to Common Core State Standards and Next Generation Science Standards.

The project aims to increase 6th-12th-grade students' environmental literacy and ability to communicate science and turn knowledge into action that benefits the environment. The unit is centered on the following phenomenon: **data provide evidence for the importance of water conservation in the Southwest, and we can share that information creatively and provide possible solutions.**

Students analyze local water use data and communicate a trend in the data to nonscientists through creative projects such as poems, physical models, and games. They then propose an action based on the data trend they identified to encourage water conservation in the community. Students' Water Conservation Data Jam projects will highlight the need for water conservation and actions that they and others can take to become stewards of our water resources.

The Water Conservation Data Jam is organized as a 5-class period unit, with each activity building on the last. The unit need not be completed in its entirety, however. While the pieces are written to be taught sequentially, teachers may choose to stop the unit at any point. The educator guide assumes 45-minute periods.

The materials required for the activities are minimal and can generally be purchased at a household goods store. Some are items that many educators often have available. The materials section lists the items required to complete the activities, with provided resources, such as handouts and PowerPoint files, listed first. When viewing this guide electronically with an internet connection, the links within the materials section will navigate to each of the listed resources.

We hope that you and your students enjoy this unit! Please contact information@asombro.org with questions and feedback.