



CO State Standards

 high school lessons	description & topics covered	field (f) classroom (c)	season	Life Science 1	Life Science 2	Earth Systems 5	Earth Systems 6	Geography 1	Geography 2	Geography 3	Economics 1	Civics 1	Civics 2	Civics 3
Plumbing the Colorado River	In this hands-on activity, we visualize the Colorado River as a whole from source to sea. We create our own map showing where water is added to and withdrawn from the system. We discuss how water users balance water supplies and what role government plays in the allocation of this scarce natural resource. We also learn the difference between renewable and nonrenewable resources. Participants gain a better understanding of the interconnected nature of the world and the way in which populations depend on abiotic factors (such as water) in an ecosystem.	c	any											
Water Quality Field Study	This activity gets kids out on the water observing water quality characteristics that can tell us about the overall health of the waterway. Participants will learn about how water is cycled through the ecosystem serving various purposes along the way. Physical observation of stream characteristics also gives insight into how geographic traits affect and transform water quality. <i>Please note: your school may need to provide transportation for this lesson.</i>	f	fall/ spring											
Up Close: Eagle Mine	This in-depth look at the Eagle Mine gives students a better understanding of local mining history and its implications. We use maps to understand the history of resource use and extraction in this area. We explore the effect that the mine had on surrounding populations of humans and animals and their distinct biological reactions to the pollution associated with the mine. We also discuss the role of local, state and federal governing bodies throughout the Superfund Cleanup effort.	c	any											
Riparian Ecology: a look at local fish, flora & fauna	This lesson helps students to understand an ecosystem by looking at the plants and animals that call it home. We discuss the various roles of mammals, birds, macroinvertebrates and fish in our local waterways and what the presence or absence of certain species can tell us about the watershed as a whole.	c/f	fall/ spring											

CO State Standards

 high school lessons	description & topics covered	field (f) classroom (c)	season	Life Science 1	Life Science 2	Earth Systems 5	Earth Systems 6	Geography 1	Geography 2	Geography 3	Economics 1	Civics 1	Civics 2	Civics 3
Eagle & Upper Colorado Watershed Threats	This lesson looks at the threats to and problems with our local watersheds. We use maps to understand where we might expect to find point and non-point sources of pollution. We discuss the effect that abiotic factors (such as resource use and extraction) have on the stability of an ecosystem. We also discuss the allocation of scarce natural resources and the interconnected nature of the world. We discuss the roles that various entities (whether governmental agencies, private businesses, or individuals) play in keeping our watersheds functional and healthy.	c	any											
First Come, First Served: Colorado Water Law	This lesson introduces students to the concepts of water rights, water law and the value of water. We discuss the impact that human activities can have on water resources and ecosystems. We use maps to understand the natural distribution of water in the West as well as the infrastructure through which we transport water from one place to another. We discuss the 1922 Colorado River Compact: how it governs water use and water rights; it's historic roots and relevance; how it has inspired conflict and cooperation over the past 90 years; and future implications of this complicated system.	c	any											