

in **SURFin'** the (water) **SHed**

Another evening of avoiding homework and watching TV for best friends Zack and Trey, while Trey's bossy sister, Abby, tries to get them on track ...

??!!

Trey, I'm glad you could come over. We just got this gigantic screen, supersonic plasma TV. It has over 1,000 channels!

Dude, that thing is sweet! Munch, munch...

STORY: GAYLE MITCHELL
MICHELLE LELLI
JUDY HOLCOMB
KARA TECCO

ART: JIM DOMBROWSKI

Hey, Zack!

Mom said you're not supposed to watch TV until you guys write your report about the River Raisin!

Don't be such a brat! We'll do it later.

Mom said do it now! She said you won't learn anything about the River Raisin by watching TV all night.

Yeah, well maybe Mom is wrong. Maybe we could learn about the river. WE HAVE 1,000 CHANNELS!

This is so stupid Zack... I'm gonna tell Mom that you aren't doing your report!



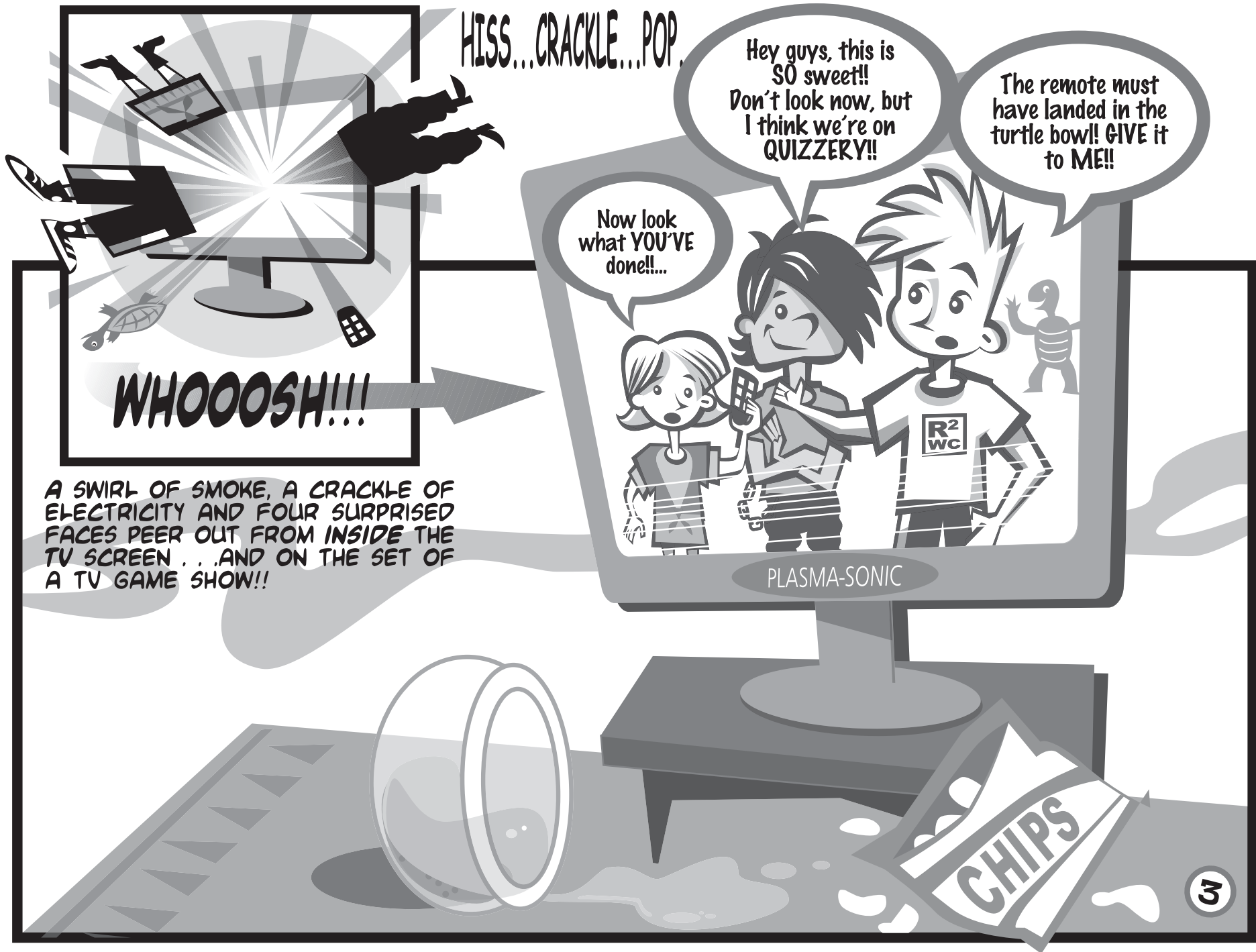
Hey, WATCH OUT. You're gonna knock over Norman's bowl...

SPLOOSH

AND THEN, Something amazing happened...

BLZZPT
BLZZZ





HISS...CRACKLE...POP.

Hey guys, this is
SO sweet!!
Don't look now, but
I think we're on
QUIZZERY!!

The remote must
have landed in the
turtle bowl! GIVE it
to ME!!

Now look
what YOU'VE
done!!...

WHOOOSH!!!

A SWIRL OF SMOKE, A CRACKLE OF
ELECTRICITY AND FOUR SURPRISED
FACES PEER OUT FROM INSIDE THE
TV SCREEN... AND ON THE SET OF
A TV GAME SHOW!!

PLASMA-SONIC

CHIPS



QUIZZERAY!

Welcome to Quizzery!

I am your host, Norman the Turtle. Your category is "The Water Around Us."

Uh-oh. I should've paid better attention in science class today.

Norman knows how to talk?

This is so cool! I can't believe I'm on a game show!

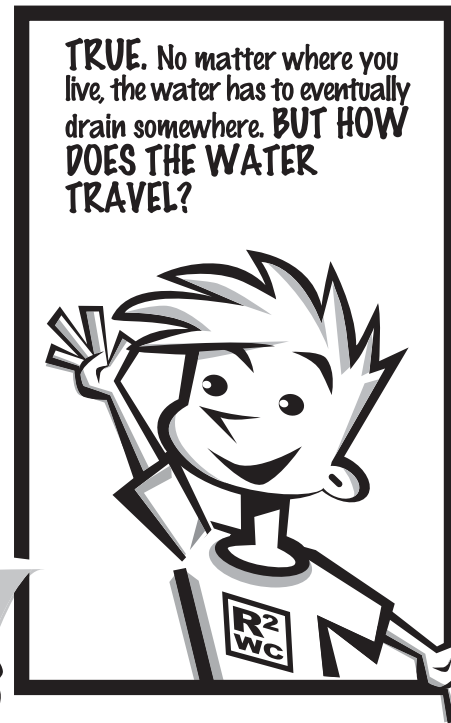
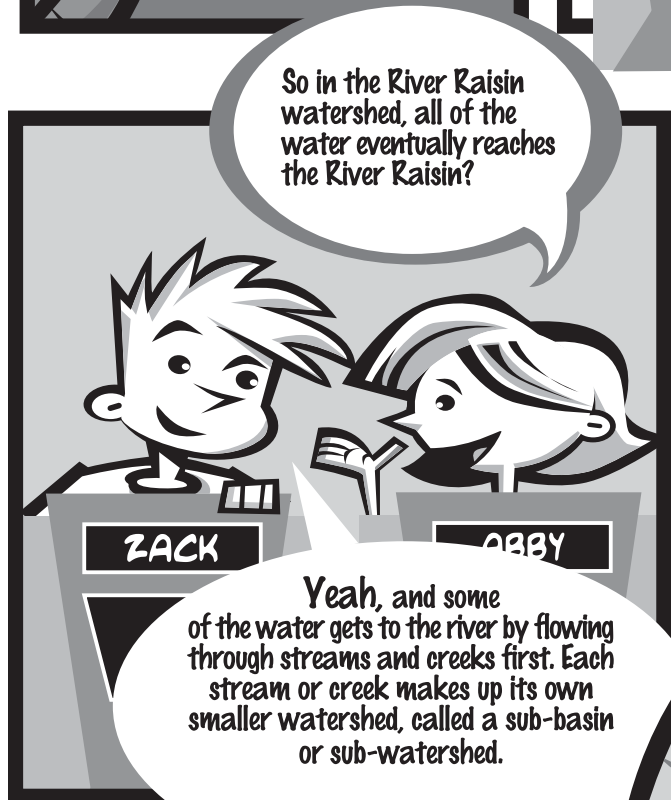
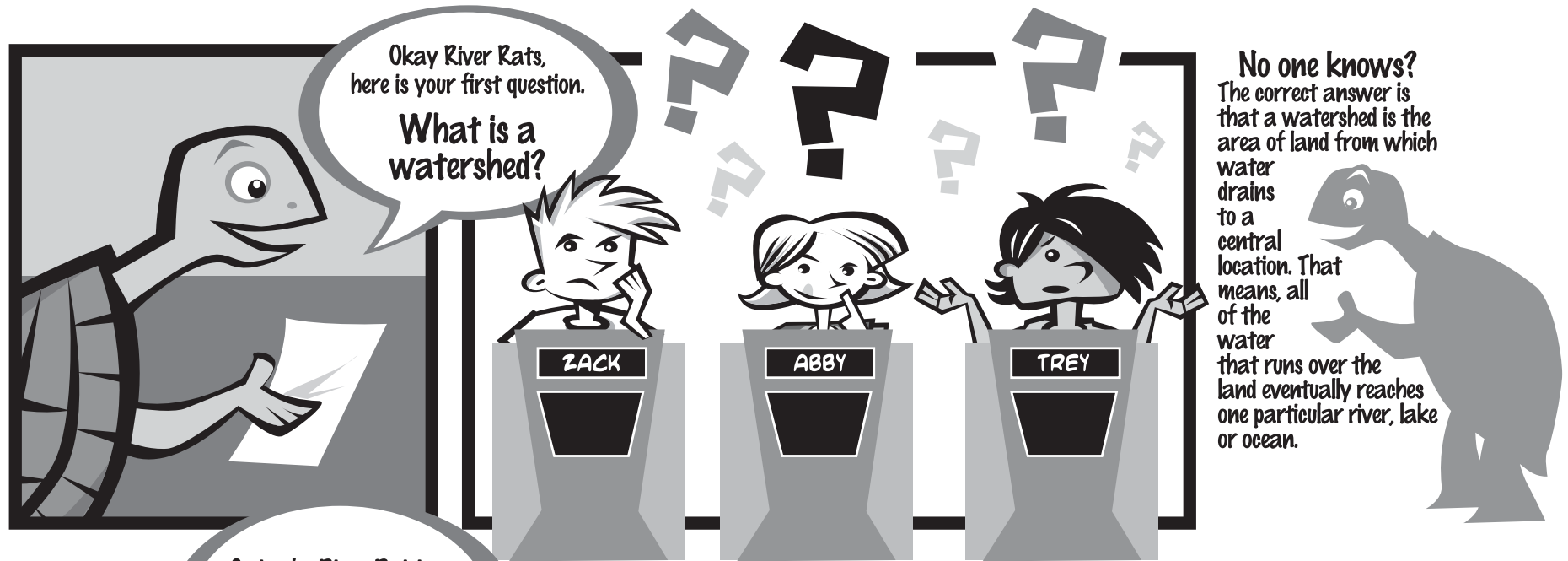


Activity

A Quizzery Question for You:

What towns in the River Raisin Watershed get their drinking water directly from the River Raisin?

Look for the answer on the inside back cover!!





POOF !

Now we can really see how water moves through the watershed, I hope you don't mind getting a little wet ...

The endless circulation of water from the atmosphere to the earth and its return to the atmosphere through condensation, precipitation, evaporation and transpiration is called the hydrologic cycle. Heating of the ocean water by the sun is the key process that keeps the hydrologic cycle in motion. Water evaporates, then falls as precipitation in the form of rain, hail, snow, sleet, drizzle or fog. On its way to earth some precipitation may evaporate.

Water falls to the earth as precipitation --rain, snow, sleet, or hail.



Percolation is when some of the precipitation and snow melts moving downward and infiltrating through cracks, joints and pores in soil and rocks until it reaches the water table where it becomes groundwater.

Water can move over the land as runoff and enter rivers, ponds or lakes becoming surface water. Or, it can soak into the soil through infiltration.

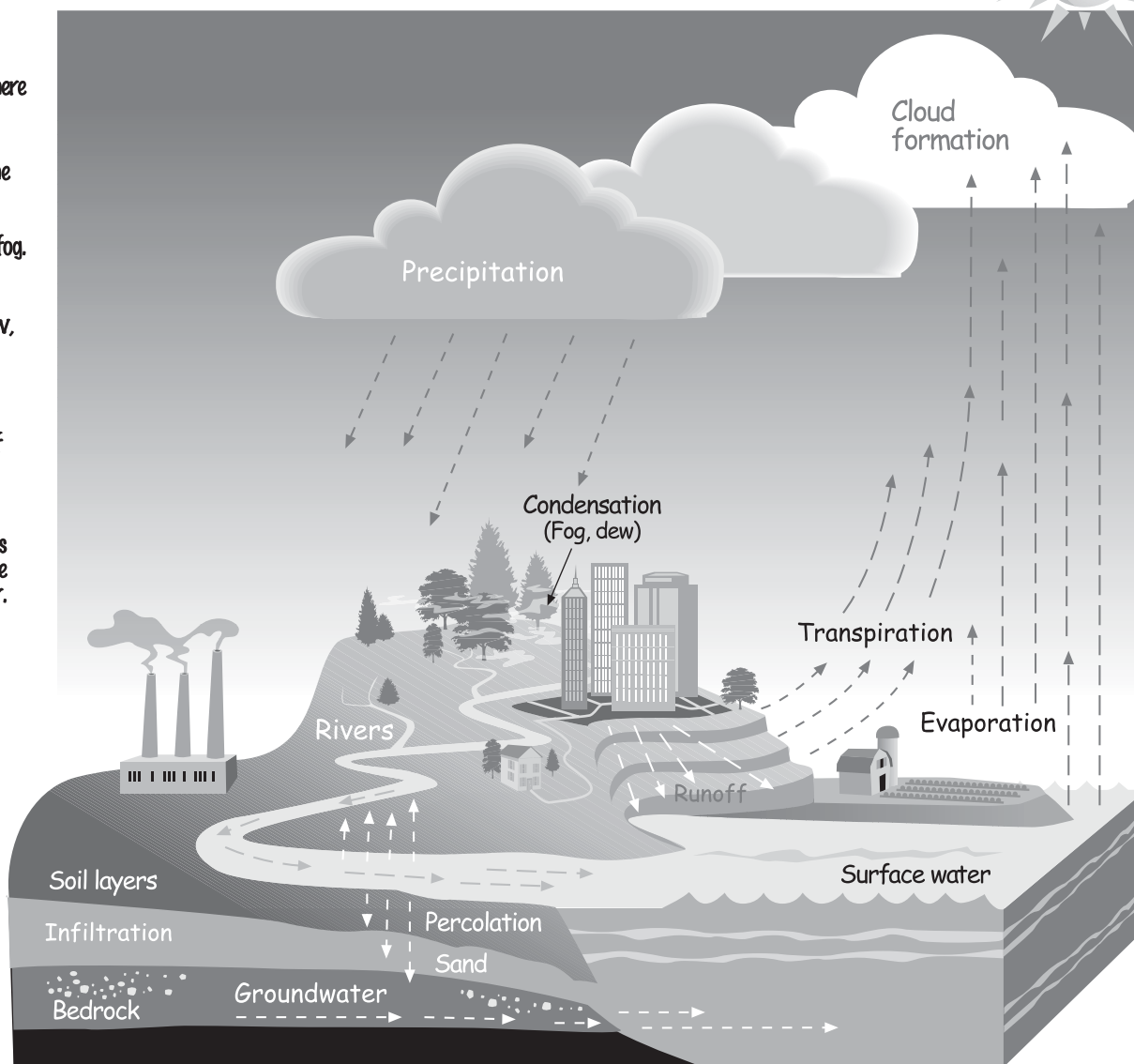
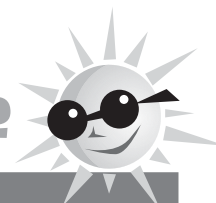


Plants absorb water through their roots and then give off some of that water vapor through the process called transpiration.

6

The Weather Station presents ... The River Rats in ...

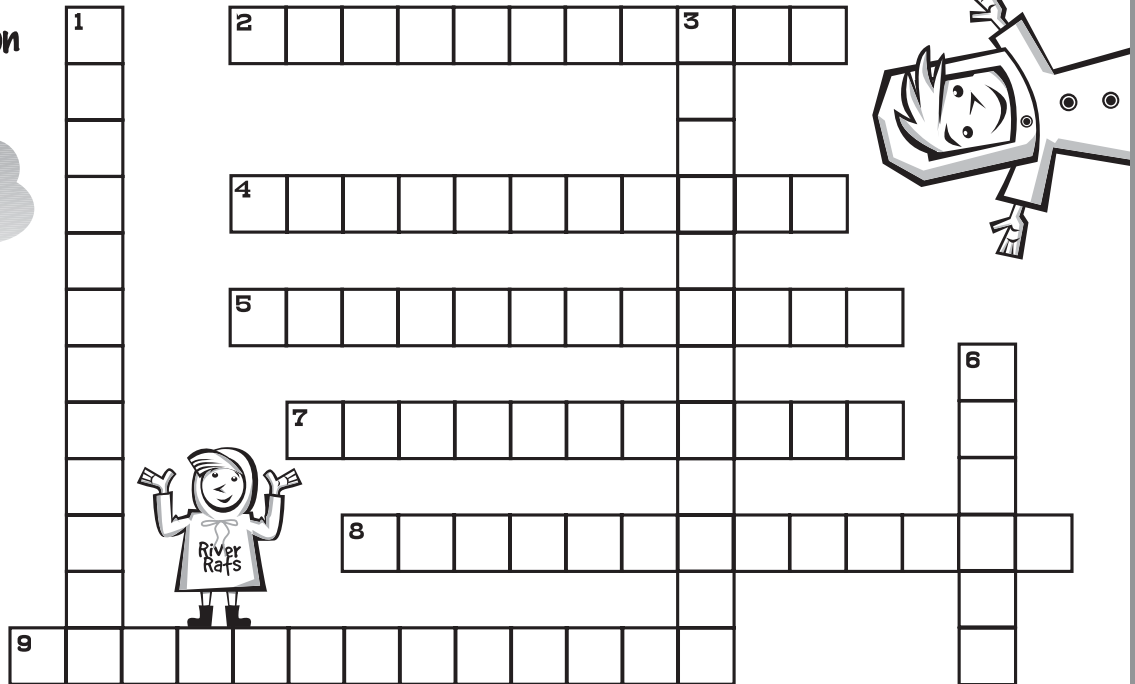
THE HYDROLOGIC CYCLE



a HYDROLOGICAL CROSSWORD

Activity

Clues to solving the crossword puzzle are found in the explanation of the hydrological cycle.



Across

2. Water travels under the ground by moving through spaces in between particles of soil
4. The process in which liquid water becomes vapor
5. The process in which water vapor in clouds turns into liquid water
7. Water that is stored underground below the water table
8. When plants pull water in through their roots and give off some of the water through their leaves back into the air
9. Water that falls to the earth from cloud

Down

1. Water that is stored above ground in lakes, ponds, rivers or streams
3. When water seeps into the ground
6. When water moves over the land and can enter surface water

Look for the puzzle answers on the inside back cover!!



River Raisin fact: An average of 31 inches of rain falls over the River Raisin Watershed each year.

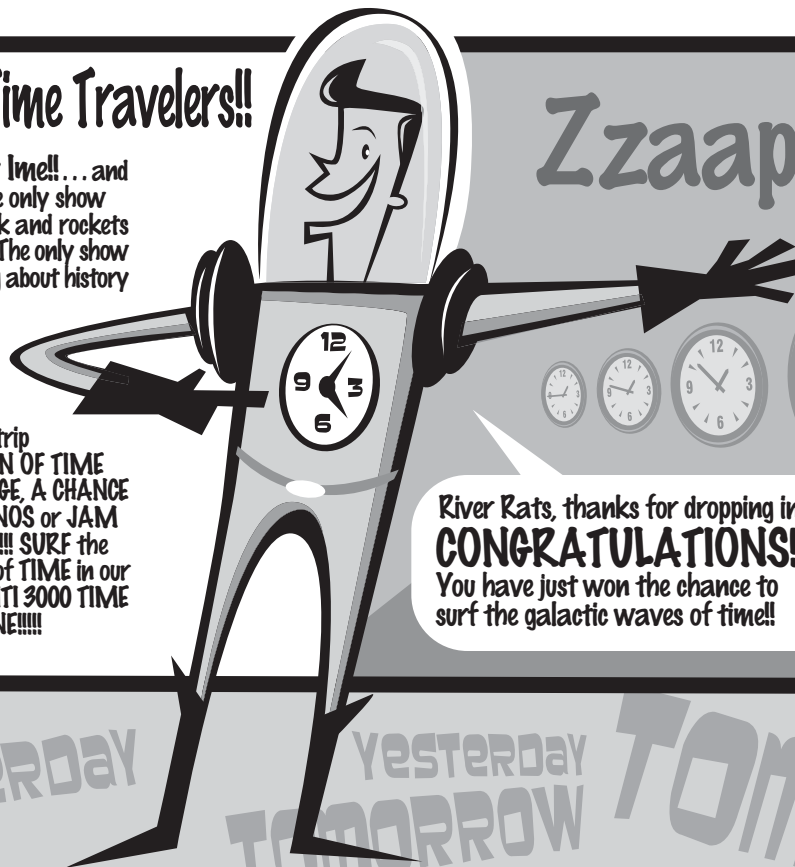


A click of the remote and the River Rats are off on another adventure...

POOF!

Welcome to Time Travelers!!

I'm your host, Ty Ime!!... and you're watching the only show that blasts you back and rockets you into the future!! The only show that makes learning about history fun and exciting!! Each episode, contestants vie for the chance to win the adventure of a lifetime... a trip **BACK TO THE DAWN OF TIME** or into the **SPACE AGE**, A CHANCE to **DINE** with the **DINOS** or **JAM** with the **JESTSONS!!! SURF** the **GALACTIC WAVES OF TIME** in our very own **ZX-INFINITI 3000 TIME TRAVELER MACHINE!!!!**

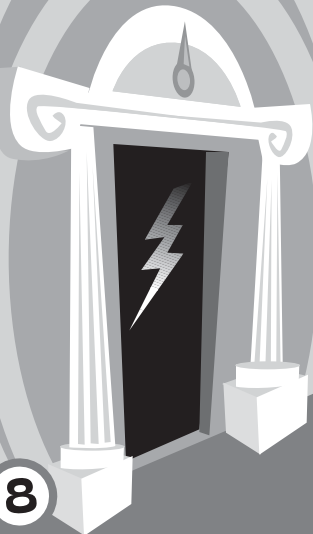


Zzaapp!!!

River Rats, thanks for dropping in and **CONGRATULATIONS!!** You have just won the chance to surf the galactic waves of time!!



Time Travelers



Jump in the machine and just enter the period and place you want to travel too!!

WOO HOO!! This is TOO COOL!!! I want to go to Spain and sail with Christopher Columbus on his voyage to discover America!!

NO WAY DUDE!! If we go sailing we are going in style... down the Nile with Cleopatra!!

We are going to the **RIVER RAISIN WATERSHED** so you can do research for your report on the River Raisin!!!



TIME TRAVELERS



Within minutes the time machine propels the River Rats way back in time, giving them a front row seat for historical highlights of the River Raisin...

The River Raisin was formed by a glacier and our soils and landforms were produced and shaped by the ice and melted waters...



Paleo Indians were the watershed's first people who lived in small family groups and hunted many kinds of large mammals that are now extinct. The giant sloth and woolly mammoth were probably among their prey.



After the large mammals were gone, people used throwing sticks to hunt smaller game.

Columbus discovered America in 1492 and settlers began to settle in Southeast Michigan in the 1800s. Man brought many changes to the watershed. In 1842, Musgrove Evans became the first settler of Lenawee County.



The River Raisin was named by French explorers who saw Native Americans drying grapes along the river and called it the "River Aux Raisins," hence the name River Raisin.



During the War of 1812 a significant battle was fought on the banks of the River Raisin which saw the American troops facing off against the British and Native Americans. The Americans were greatly outnumbered and were massacred. In the spring the American troops regrouped and drove the British out of Michigan forever. Their famous rallying cry was...

Remember the Raisin!



ACTIVITY: SPOT THE DIFFERENCE . . . A “riparian zone” is the space between land and a stream or body of water. Plant communities along the river margins are called riparian vegetation. Riparian zones are important to environmental management. They come in different forms such as grasslands, woodlands and wetlands. These are buffer zones between the land and water and are critical for improving water quality. They provide shade that reduces water temperature and filter out sediments and other contaminants. They protect fish habitats while providing aquatic foodwebs. Farmers and homeowners who own land along rivers and streams share an important responsibility to protect the water that flows along or through their property. Fertilizers, pesticides, nutrients, chemicals, detergents, household wastes, sediments or other forms of pollution that riparian landowners use end up in the adjacent water and can cause a variety of problems ranging from fish kills to nuisance plant growth and algae blooms. Look at the two pictures below of the same scene. Can you spot the differences between the one with a riparian buffer strip and one without?





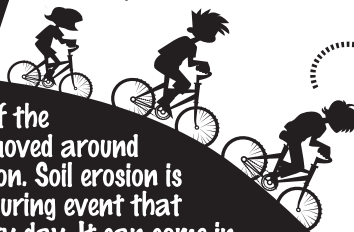
With a click of the remote control the River Rats find themselves on mountain bikes ready for a race to begin...

5K BIKE RACE

Sweet it's time for a little bit of race action...



The kids are about to discover another way in which human activity has affected nature...



Wow! I dig this new asphalt bike path cutting through the woods. It's the perfect surface for racing on plus there's a great view of the river.

The process of the earth being moved around is called erosion. Soil erosion is a natural occurring event that happens every day. It can come in different forms such as wind erosion and water erosion. Normally nature provides a covering called vegetation consisting of trees, shrubs, native grasses and any other plant life. The roots of these plants all help to act as fingers to help hold soil in place. As roots grow deep into the soil they also help aerate it, making it more porous so water can absorb quicker. When new development comes into an area, the vegetation is replaced with concrete and asphalt which increases the runoff, causing downstream erosion which can result in flooding. Often areas are bulldozed right up next to creeks, streams and rivers... with the vegetation removed, soil and pollutants can easily wash into our waterways, negatively affecting our water quality and wildlife habitat around us. As the number of acres of land is converted to housing, the increased runoff and sediment loading into the River Raisin will continue to rise.

SUDDENLY...
We interrupt this regularly scheduled broadcast to bring you this emergency broadcast message...



A quick-moving storm has washed out all roads and trails within the listening vicinity...



Sorry guys, race over. This bike path has been washed out by strong rains causing it to be overtaken by water and mud.

**DANGER
ROAD OUT**



The natural areas of vegetation on the earth, especially along our water ways act as buffers, which slow the affects of erosion. Plants absorb much of the water and pollutants as they pass through the area helping to keep the soil stable.

With a click of the magical remote the River Rats now find themselves in the chambers of a town hall ... ???!!



TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

LAND USE PROPOSAL

  
HOUSES + PEOPLE =

**MORE
IMPERVIOUS
SURFACES**

What about
the proposed
greenways
project?

How does this
affect the
farm land?

Hey this can't be right.
Aren't we supposed to
be outside somewhere?

I get it, this is that cable
access channel that I
always skip over ...
boring!!!!

Sssshh!!!! Be quiet
and you might learn
something!

Abby's correct,
what happens inside here today
affects what happens outside
in the world of nature
tomorrow.

Whenever decisions are being
made about development and
growth we need to be aware
of how it's going to impact the
environment and that's why
we have public discussion about
these important issues.



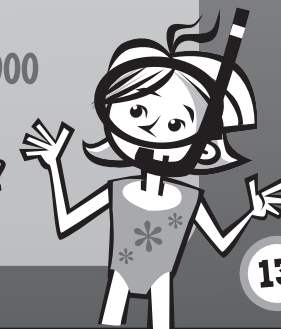
AND NOW IT'S TIME TO FOR THE POPULAR QUIZ SHOW ...

Water you know?

featuring questions about one of our most popular natural resources



- How much of the human body is water? **66%**
- How much water does the average person use to brush their teeth? **2 gallons**
- How much water is used to flush a toilet? **2-7 gallons**
- How much water is used for a five minute shower? **25-50 gallons**
- How much does an average dishwasher use to do one load of dishes? **9-12 gallons**
- How much water does the average household use during a one year period? **107,000 gallons**
- How much water does it take to process a quarter pound of hamburger? **1 gallon**
- How much water does it take to manufacture one new car including tires? **39,090 gallons**
- How much water does a person use everyday? **123 gallons**
- How much of the earth's surface is water? **80%**
- How much of the earth's water is suitable for drinking? **ONE, yes 1, percent!!**
- How many miles of pipeline and aqueducts are in the US and Canada? **1,000,000 miles or enough to circle the earth 40 times!!**
- How many community public water supply systems are there in the US? **58,900**
- How much do these utilities process daily? **34 billion gallons of water**
- If all the communities water systems had to be replaced, what would it cost?
In excess of \$175 BILLION!!



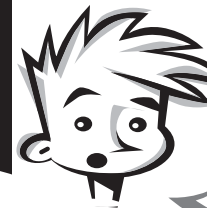
Who Wants to Be a Naturalist?

HEY THERE NATURE FANS,
Welcome to "Who Wants To Be A Naturalist?" Our first multiple choice question is: Which of the following occupations involve being a **NATURALIST**?

- A** Biologist
- B** Organic Farmer
- C** Forest Ranger
- D** Environmental Engineer
- E** Solid Waster Manager

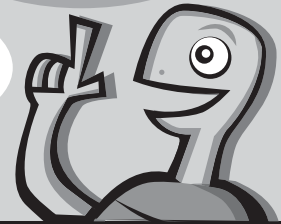
Dude, it's got to be the environmental engineer. Aren't they the ones that solve pollution problems and work at improving the environment?

Yeah, but check this, the organic farmer is working with the land and water in a positive way, growing food without chemicals that pollute soil and water. And the forest ranger is totally into the environment.



Yeah, I see your point. Of course the solid waste manager could totally be into recycling and the biologist could be researching and educating people about the environment and how to take care of it.

ABSOLUTELY
CORRECT!!



So what's
the answer?
**ALL OF
THE ABOVE?**



Folks, I think we have ourselves some winners. **ALL** of the occupations and many more can be used to help nature and improve the environment. . . and now it's time for the nightly news.

Good Evening, I'm Tory Lee, and you're watching "Investigative Reports," the show that delves deeper and gets the facts so that YOU...are **IN THE KNOW!!!!** Tonight we'll explore the wonders of wildlife in ways you probably never thought of before. We'll provide you with a different perspective in the hopes that you will do all you can to help preserve and protect the wildlife habitat in **YOUR WATERSHED!!!!**



Human beings have rejoiced in the splendors of the natural world since the dawn of time. We share a deep love and appreciation for wildlife. For many of us, wildlife has produced powerful images that have shaped our lives and defined our purpose. Wildlife inspires us with its majesty, enriches our lives and creates memories that last a lifetime.

While we all enjoy viewing wildlife, have you ever really pondered the benefits humans derive from wildlife? There are important emotional and social reasons why humans need to experience wildlife and nature from time to time. We all need to get outside and breathe a little fresh air to relax, unwind, or recharge our batteries. What better place to experience and appreciate wildlife than in your own backyard...the River Raisin Watershed.

Wildlife is not merely a source of personal pleasure but provides an excellent indication of the health of the environment upon which we all depend. Healthy wildlife populations and habitat are important to our quality of life and economic well-being. A dollar amount can be attached to real estate, recreation, agriculture and industry among others that is directly related to the health and well being of the environment in which we all live, work and play.

Wildlife and wildlife habitat play a vital role in the ecological and biological processes that are essential to life itself. Human life depends on countless interactions among plants, animals, and microorganisms. These ecological processes are essential for agriculture, forestry, fisheries and human health. Some of the biological processes in which wildlife play a key role are pollinization, germination, seed dispersal, soil generation, nutrient cycling, predation, habitat maintenance, waste breakdown, and pest control. These all have economic benefits. Wildlife and wildlife habitat are also important for the preservation of genetic diversity. Agriculture, forests, and fisheries all rely on crops that are adapted to local or regional conditions that can withstand pests, diseases, predators, pollutants, and other threats.

Each year, thousands of people visit parks, lakes and streams in the River Raisin Watershed. There are even some who come to view the migrating birds or visit local preserves in hopes of spotting an endangered or threatened species. Visitors spend money on accommodations, food, travel, entertainment and equipment. This influx of visitors creates seasonal job opportunities and benefits the local economy. The sheer scale of the benefits provided by wildlife in the River Raisin Watershed to individuals and the economy is one more compelling reason for maintaining and improving the watershed in which we live. ..

And now it's time for my INSECT colleague to bring us The BUG REPORT ...







As a team you will collect and sort macroinvertebrates. A collector uses a special net to collect the insects. It's important that she collects at certain habitats such as riffles, pools, leaf packets and pebble substrate, as well as vegetation. This will result in insects of different types. Now you try it!

It looks like the kids are having fun. I'm definitely enjoying basking on this log.

These insects are tasty!

3.

2.

1.

4.

5.

ACTIVITY: Label the FIVE habitat areas where bugs live.

Definitions:

Riffles: The shallower, faster moving sections of a stream. You'll notice a fast current with rocks breaking through the water's surface.

Pools: Standing water not in a stream or river.

Leaf packets: When leaves clump together in a stream to form a habitat for bugs.

Pebble substrate: An area in a stream with rocks and pebbles.

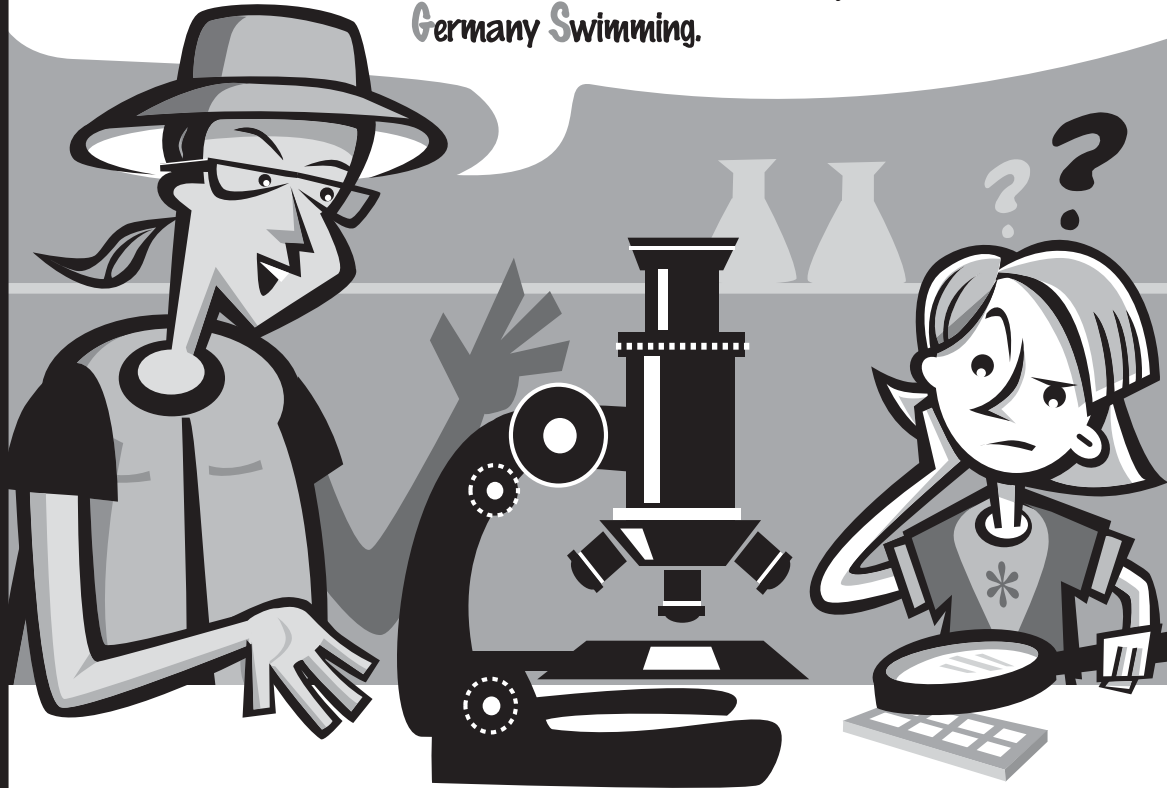
Vegetation: Where plant life resides.



C'mon River Rats let's go to the laboratory to find out what you caught.



The first thing we do is sort them by general appearance. This makes them easier to identify. I learned the levels by remembering **King Phillip Came Over From Germany Swimming**.



The phrase helps us **remember** the different classification levels

Kingdom
Phyllum
Class
Orderr
Family
Genus
Species



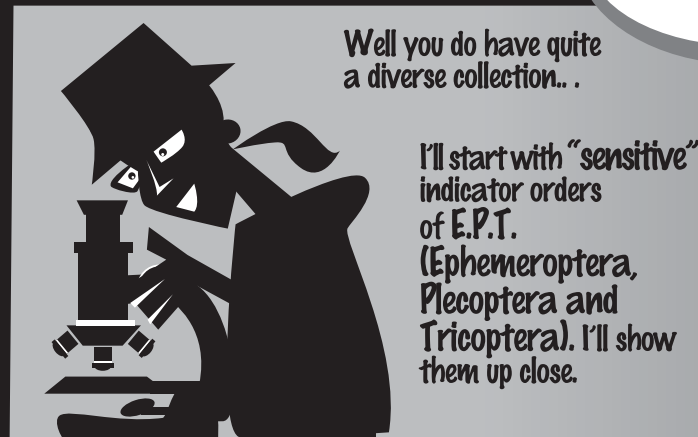
By knowing these levels we can learn about the importance of certain insects ...
 Now let's take a look!

What do you mean sensitive?



Do we have any of those important insects?

20



Well you do have quite a diverse collection..

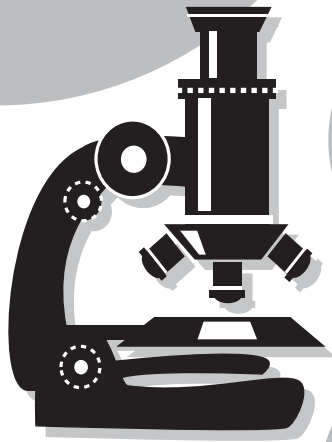
I'll start with "sensitive" indicator orders of E.P.T. (Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera and Tricoptera). I'll show them up close.



ACTIVITY: HELP ZACK, TREY AND ABBY IDENTIFY WHAT FAMILY THIS MAYFLY BELONGS TO. USE THE STEP-BY-STEP QUESTIONS TO HELP YOU.



There are families and genera that require a very healthy environment like little silt plus high oxygen levels. Certain families and genera under those orders are some of the most vulnerable to water quality changes.



1

Does the head have tusks that point away from the body near the mouth?

Yes: Ephemeridae
No: go to Question 2



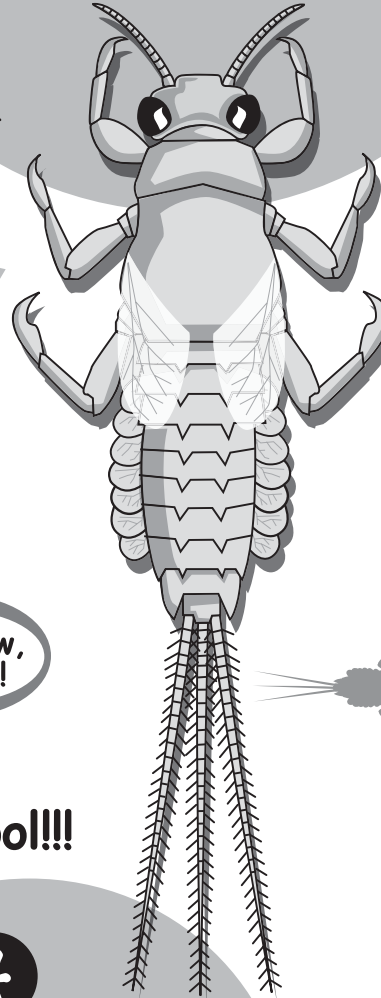
Ehheew,
Ickkk!!!

Cool!!!

4

Is the head and body flat with eyes on the very top of the head?

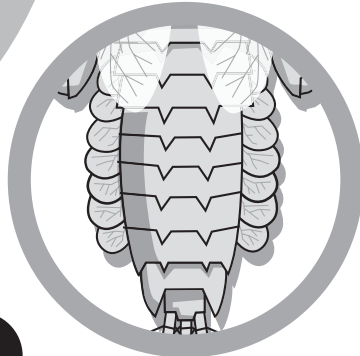
Yes: Heptageniidae
No: Baetidae



2

Do all of the gills look the same or are some a different shape than the rest?

Yes: They all look the same: Go to Question 3.
No: There are some that are different: Caenidae



3

Are there gills on all 7 segments of the abdomen?

Yes: Go to Question 4
No: Ephemeridae



21

Answers to the "Identify the Family" quiz are on Page 33.



And now it's time for another episode of "What's Cookin'?" with our favorite host...CHEF TREY...who has a special treat for you today as we work on cookin' up some COMPOST!



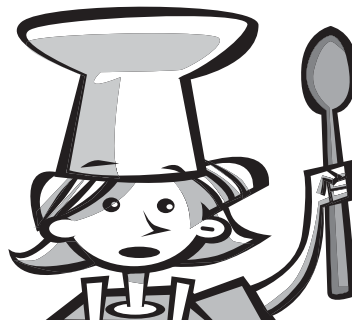
What's
Cookin'?

WHOA! Who do they think I am, Emeril?



25

COOL! Did you know that composting turns organic household waste into a valuable conditioner for soil?



I'll be the assistant. What do we need for the compost?



Our EZ No-Bake recipe for composting shows everything you need.





RECIPE

EZ-No Bake Recipe: Composting

Ingredients:

- Yard waste (grass clippings, leaves, small brush & twigs, weeds)
- Saw dust & wood chips
- Vegetable & fruit peelings
- Coffee grounds
- Tea leaves
- Egg shells
- Clean wood ashes
- Floor sweepings

Mix: Healthy portion of each together.

Layer: 2 inches of topsoil in between every 6 inches of the ingredient mixture.

Turn mixture occasionally (except in winter)



Even I know that there are some things you **DON'T** put in your compost like:

- Whole branches & logs
- Pet or human waste
- Charcoal briquette ash
- Sawdust from treated wood
- Meat scraps or grease



Yard waste used to make up over 30% of all household landfill waste until the 1995 law banning it from landfills and incineration. Throwing it in the landfill created more methane gas and leachate, which pollutes the air and local water supplies. Not only that, but trying to get rid of yard waste by burning only creates more air pollution, not to mention a fire hazard and can be a nuisance to neighbors! That is why since 1995 in Michigan the open burning of grass clippings and leaves is prohibited in municipalities with 7,500 or more people.



AND there are lots of ways to compost out there – from fancy rotating drums you fill, to a simple circle of chicken wire. You can get more info on composting by checking with your county Solid Waste Department or by visiting the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) website at: www.michigan.gov/deq

POOF!

Hee-Hee



ONCE AGAIN THE SCENE
CHANGES AND...

POOF!

Look out the front!
There's something
coming at us!!

Aaah!!! Where the heck are we?!
Whoa -there's nobody flying this
thing!!

SUDDENLY THE VOICE OF
NORMAN THE TURTLE COMES
OVER THE SHIP'S INTERCOM...

Please don your headgear and prepare to enter
the region where at this very minute there seems
to be an onslaught of dangerous chemical life
forms approaching!!

BOOM!

RRWC

RIVER RATS

BOOM!

Oh, I do,
I do!!!!

Hey this reminds me of
the computer game you guys play
all the time. You will have to properly dispose
of each of these bad guys to make the world
a safer place to live.

CRACKLE, CRACKLE BUZZ...

Yes, you have the power
to eliminate a great
danger. But do you
know the right codes?

What a showoff! I know the codes too! He's talking about the same
codes on labels of household hazardous materials homeowners buy
every day.

There are symbols or
codes to help identify
hazardous material in
the every day products
we buy like solvents and
cleaning agents. Hey look!
those symbols are on the
console buttons of this
space fighter.

I think we have to press the correct symbol to eliminate each of the chemical life forms!

CAUTION means less dangerous than warning



WARNING indicates a less severe hazard

POISON means highly toxic



FLAMMABLE means can catch fire easily or possibly explode into flames

DANGER

DANGER means highly toxic and may be flammable and corrosive too

Destructo Beams, Inc.

and now it's time for a fight...

I got 'em!
I got 'em!!

Blast 'em Zack!!

Another one
at ten o'clock -
- and he's
outta here!!!

This is great, Trey
-- I think I have
them on the run!!!

Blzzzt!!

POW!!!

Congratulations River Rats, you have successfully rid the world of some potential dangers. If only things were always that easy. Unfortunately, in the real world, many people do not even realize how many potentially dangerous materials are in and around their own houses right under their noses.

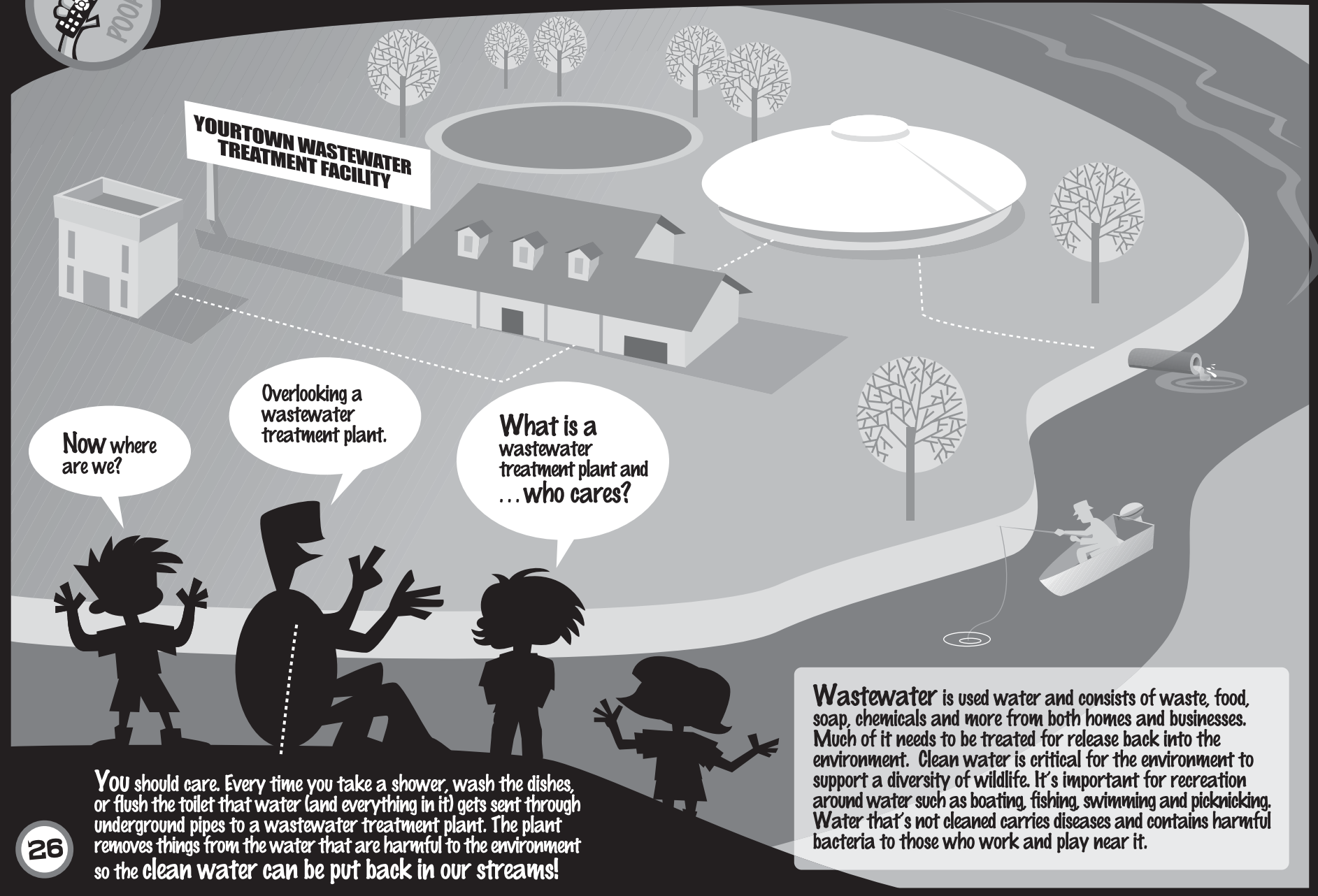
We gotta tell people!! We have to tell them how to properly get rid of such things. What do they need to do Norman??

The proper thing to do is call your County Solid Waste Department and find out how to properly dispose of all those dangerous materials considered Household Hazardous Waste. Your local Solid Waste Department will guide you on what to do and where to take those materials for safe collection. By properly disposing of Household Hazardous Waste, we can all make the world (and our homes) a safer place.

And now, time to move on!



With a click of the magical remote the River Rats now find themselves on a hill overlooking a wastewater treatment facility and in the middle of a television show called "RRWC-TV: Live-Unplugged!!! (or "Water You Gonna Do With All that Sewage?"



You should care. Every time you take a shower, wash the dishes, or flush the toilet that water (and everything in it) gets sent through underground pipes to a wastewater treatment plant. The plant removes things from the water that are harmful to the environment so the clean water can be put back in our streams!

Wastewater is used water and consists of waste, food, soap, chemicals and more from both homes and businesses. Much of it needs to be treated for release back into the environment. Clean water is critical for the environment to support a diversity of wildlife. It's important for recreation around water such as boating, fishing, swimming and picnicking. Water that's not cleaned carries diseases and contains harmful bacteria to those who work and play near it.



Activity: The following words are all associated with the wastewater treatment process. Can you find them in the word search?

Word Search

food
soap
chemicals
nutrients
waste
garbage
nitrogen
phosphorus
sediment
water
treatment

homes
businesses
industry
grease
oil
plastic
bacteria
pesticides
fertilizer
sewer

J	X	Z	C	A	X	E	S	N	V	G	E	T	N	E	E
X	H	E	R	I	X	D	S	E	M	O	H	G	O	P	L
C	C	W	A	S	T	E	G	A	B	R	A	G	T	E	N
I	L	S	Q	E	E	D	C	H	E	M	I	C	A	L	S
N	W	F	E	D	P	L	Q	Z	H	R	Z	S	S	E	A
D	S	I	Q	I	N	G	I	O	A	P	G	T	W	T	I
U	S	R	C	C	N	L	I	Z	S	N	N	E	N	H	R
S	M	C	V	I	I	L	M	U	I	E	R	E	F	E	E
T	N	E	M	T	A	E	R	T	I	O	M	E	P	O	T
R	C	C	R	S	Y	O	R	R	H	I	L	N	A	E	C
Y	S	E	V	E	H	O	T	I	D	R	P	T	O	R	A
X	F	E	E	P	G	U	P	E	M	P	S	Q	S	R	B
S	E	S	S	E	N	I	S	U	B	V	T	Z	E	P	G
E	B	O	N	M	F	E	H	S	S	M	E	T	C	S	K
I	H	I	R	H	F	O	O	D	E	E	A	A	K	T	S
P	L	A	S	T	I	C	G	F	N	W	K	A	G	Q	I

Answers to word search can be found on the inside back cover



POOF!! With a change of channels the River Rats find themselves on the set of a new show called "R" House whose letters stand for Re-use, Reduce and Recycle.

Hello there, I'm Rachel and I run the recycling center. Recycling is helpful to the environment. Items brought into a recycling center are reprocessed into new useful things. For example plastic bottles can be re-made into rulers, or even playground equipment. Aluminum cans can be made into new cans, window frames or rain gutters. Glass bottles and jars can be used to make new jars or even fiberglass.



WOW! You mean that when we play outside during recess we could be playing on recycled material?

Making a bird feeder

Recycling can even help out animals. Here's how to make a bird feeder out of a recycled milk jug.

What you'll need:

- A gallon or half-gallon plastic jug
- A wooden dowel rod
- String

Cut two large holes on either side of the jug. Also make two small holes along the bottom directly across from each other. Slowly punch the dowel rod through and poke it through to the other side. This will be a place for the birds to sit and eat. Make a hole through the top of the cap. Insert and tie the string through it. Fill the bottom of the jug with bird food through the larger holes and hang it in a tree.

Mmm... good

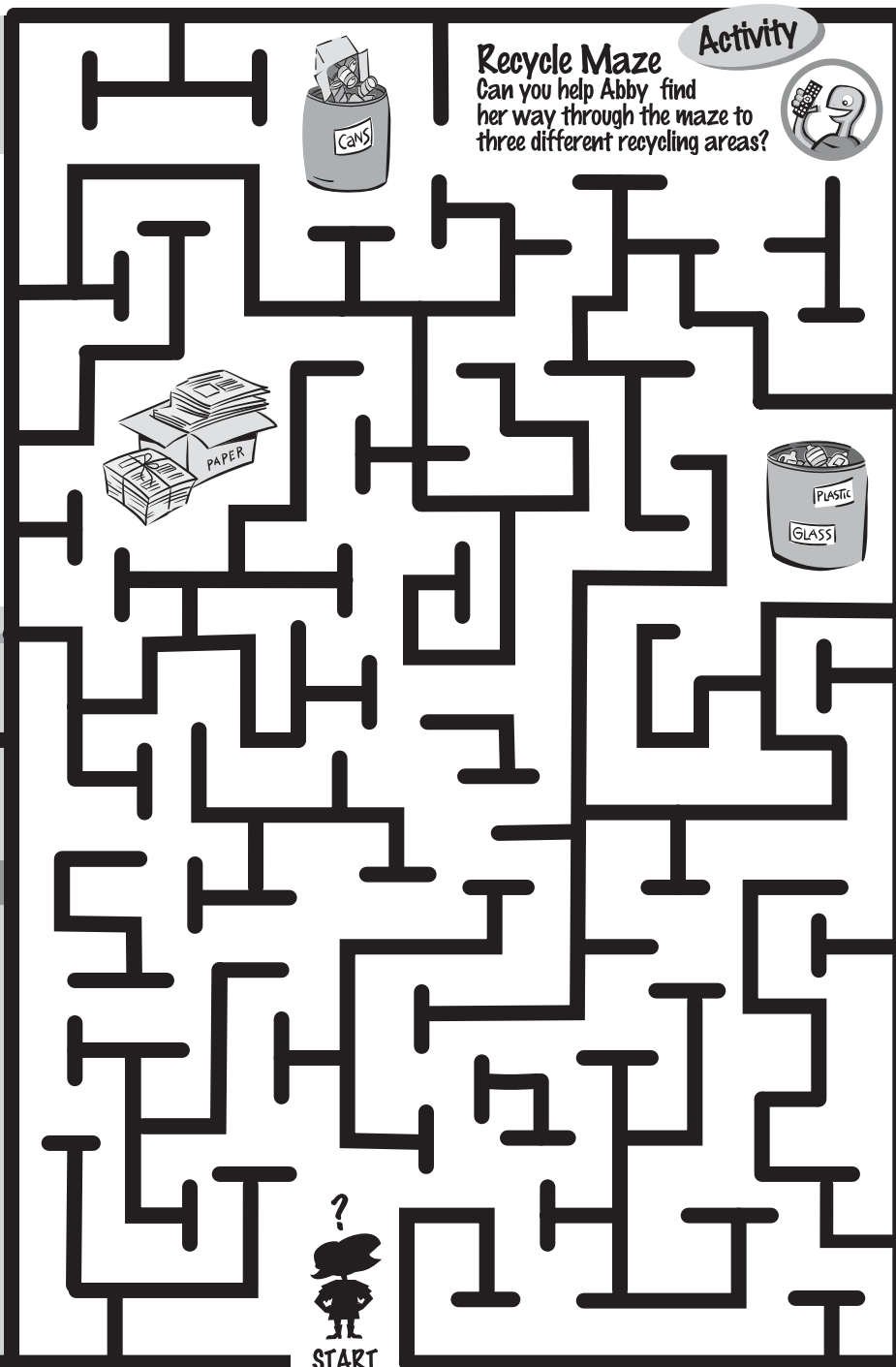


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Activity

Recycle Maze

Can you help Abby find her way through the maze to three different recycling areas?



A click of the button and the River Rats are off to another adventure...



EXTREME

ENVIRONMENTAL SPORTS

Cool!!! Extreme Sports!

Huh???

Not quite my young tri-athlete. This is Extreme Environmental Sports!



That's right. Sports with a conscience, a focus on the thrill of Mother Nature.

What are you talking about?



I'm talking about sailing, canoeing, kayaking, swimming and hiking. And that's just spring and summer...



You've also got your skating, skiing and ice fishing in the Winter. Sports that are fun-factored to the max, but the stress on Mom Nature is low.



Yeah, it's like remembering that the lake we use as a playground is also somebody's home.

That's cool!



Now you're talking. The river we canoe down, the lake we sail on, the trail we hike, all these places are habitats too!

Dude, it's about respect!

Maybe it should be "Extremely Respectful Sports!"

Hey, call it what you want, just count me in!

As the scene changes the kids find themselves in a different kind of home show . . . featuring wildlife residents



Take a few minutes to look around you and see if you can find all the different homes that belong to nature's wildlife that you never noticed before.



WE WILL RETURN RIGHT AFTER A WORD FROM OUR SPONSOR ...

Here are five simple eco-friendly products to help you ...

help our planet!



1. BAGS

Over 380 billion plastic bags, sacks and wraps are consumed each year in the United States. Hundreds of thousands of animals needlessly die each year from eating discarded plastic bags mistaken for food. In the U.S. alone, an estimated 12 million barrels of oil is used annually to make plastic bags that Americans consume. **SAY NO TO PLASTIC AND PAPER BAGS, BUY A REUSABLE BAG AND BRING IT TO THE STORE WITH YOU EACH TIME YOU SHOP!!**



2. LIGHTING

Replace your 75 watt incandescent light bulb with a 20 watt florescent bulb and you will get the same amount of light but save approximately \$55 on your electric bill while preventing 1,300 pounds of Co₂ from entering the environment. New generation bulbs last up to 7-10 years!



3. NON-TOXIC PRODUCTS

Purchase non-toxic cleaners for your household. Use non-phosphate detergents. When phosphates enter the waterways they act as a food source, spawning an overgrowth of algae. This overabundance of aquatic plant life depletes the waters oxygen supply killing off fish and other aquatic life.



4. REDUCE

Limit your use of water by turning off the faucet when you brush your teeth. Shower instead of taking a bath and shorten the time spent in the shower by 5 minutes.

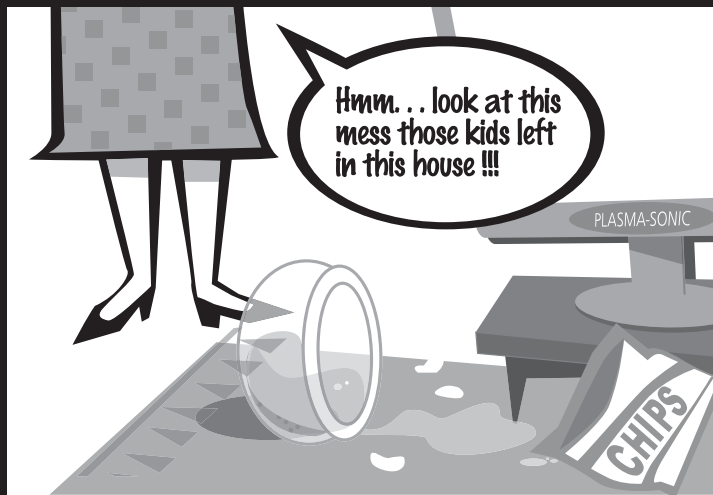


5. BUY ORGANIC

Every year 375,000 pounds of pesticides are used on crops in the U.S. each year. With organic agriculture, water contamination is reduced, soil quality is improved, groundwater pollution is reduced and wildlife is protected. As an added bonus, you won't be ingesting chemical residues that remain on your food even after washing.



Meanwhile back at the house, Zack & Abby's Mom isn't too happy with what she finds waiting for her ...



I can't find the remote and the TV set doesn't seem to be working. I'll call the cable company to have them come out and take a look at things.



A few hours later ...

Everything's reconnected ma'm. It seems a strong wind must have come along and knocked the cable line into some pond water. Your TV should be working fine now.



Suddenly a flash of light and small explosion appears in the family room and ...

ZapF!!



THREE WET AND VERY TIRED CHILDREN ARE TRANSPORTED BACK HOME ...

Wow! That was so cool! I can't believe how much I learned. I'm actually looking forward to working on my watershed report now ...



Are you kids in there?! Where have you been hiding and Zack, don't you have a report due this week that you should be working on??!!

Whew!!

