



# STREAMS

## Science Teams in Rural Environments for Aquatic Management Studies



### IN A NUTSHELL

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**Cost:** No Charge

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### SUBJECTS

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Mathematics  
Science  
Social Studies

STREAMS involves students in the study of local aquatic systems to develop a sense of environmental issues. Designed primarily for rural students, the program seeks to increase awareness of water resources and to involve students directly in water quality monitoring and their community's actions. Students explore seventeen different topic areas, including recognition of household pollutants, water treatment, erosion, and the use of computers to write reports. Each lesson lists a goal, objectives, general procedures, assessment opportunities, and teacher resources. The text identifies specific watersheds and landmarks for field studies and research. Identified resources include videos, literature, slides, teacher handouts, and equipment. Many activities involve the use of computers, water testing kits, and other laboratory equipment. Twelve community action projects undertaken by students after completing the course are cited. The text includes a program overview, blank data sheets, important contacts, and recommended audiovisual materials. Correlations to standards for science and mathematics are also cited.

<b>Grade Level</b>
5-8
<b>Length</b>
70 pages
<b>Date Published</b>
1996

**THE** BOTTOM  
L I N E

"Conceptually very strong. Encourages students to investigate their relationship to this vital resource."

What the REVIEWERS Said !	Key Characteristics	Strengths Noted	Other Considerations
	Fairness and Accuracy	Incorporates field work, discussion, and decision making based on direct observation.	Does not provide background information.
	Depth	Concepts build on each other and are explored through field-based activities. Uses water to link several subjects together.	Awareness is limited to local waterways and local issues.
	Emphasis on Skills Building	Activities encourage brainstorming, small group problem solving, communication skills, and collection, analysis and interpretation of data.	
	Action Orientation	Includes a variety of activities for school and community involvement.	Little information given to show that students' actions have an effect on water quality.
	Instructional Soundness	Uses diverse instructional methods. Connects material to everyday life. Encourages team teaching and networking between schools in watershed.	
	Usability	Materials are reproducible, clearly labeled, easily used and reused.	Some required materials are expensive or may be difficult to acquire. Not readily adaptable to all areas of the country.

"Action component should follow data analysis, rather than precede it."

"Much is left to the resourcefulness of the educator to supplement with personal experiences, handouts, visuals, resource professionals, and hands-on activities."