

## Engage

### PURPOSE:

To generate interest in the science of water. To gain an understanding of why water is fundamental to a healthy living and non-living community. To explore water related ecosystems, where does water come from, and expand vocabulary. To provide Milwaukee's rich historical connection to water.

### ACTIVITIES:

1. The teacher will provide background on why water is important for a healthy community. Provide background on watersheds, hydrology and why it is important to keep our water clean. If teacher has a watershed model, please use it to demonstrate what a watershed is.
2. Student will map, conduct background research and will be able to identify river closest to their home.
  - Background research – What is a watershed, lake, river, wetlands, estuaries?
  - Activity - Why is water important? Where does it come from?
    - [Graphic Organizer](#)
    - [“Science of Water” Worksheet](#)
  - Mapping – students will pin point their home using the Milwaukee Urban Water Trail Map to identify the watershed and river closest to their home, sense of place
    - [Worksheet](#)
  - Historical background – watch John Gurda's video and complete Cornell notes
    - [Note Taking Worksheet](#)
  - Who is John Gurda? – Background on a Milwaukee historian