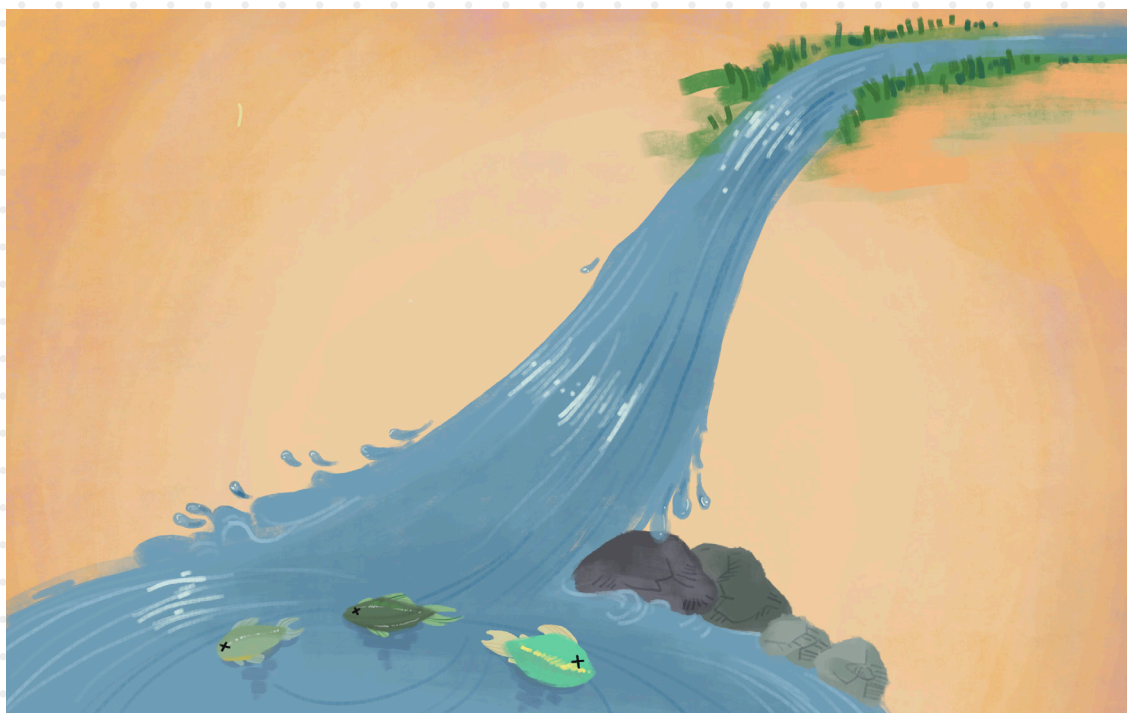


Story Bones – Upstream



Anna lives in the southern town and has just started her summer vacation. She also recently heard about “Rainbow bubbles,” said to be the best shampoo in the world—and it certainly feels good!

After her shower, she heads down to the river to swim with her friends. When she gets home, her skin starts itching terribly. In the following days, she notices how the reeds along the river are drooping, and the water smells awful.

She follows the river northward and, near the northern town, she sees a large pipe dumping sludge into the river. She meets Robert, who is fishing and coughing. He says his coughing is caused by the large factories in the southern town, while Anna believes the now-polluted river in the south is due to the pipe in the north dumping sludge into the water.

Together, they walk along the river, meet two other young people, and see how the river is treated by themselves and others. They film it and discuss what they can do.

Playing Possibilities - Make groups of students choose their own

- Creative writing: Speech or Campaign Slogan, what message would you send to adults? Create a powerful campaign title or poster line (e.g. “The River Connects Us All”).
- Pollution Collage: Make an artwork using recycled materials to represent “clean” and “polluted”.
- Character Posters: Design posters from each child’s point of view with quotes, emotions, and goals (e.g. “We must protect the river!”).
- Villager Interviews: Act out interviews with villagers from the different towns — including a factory worker, the mayor, or the girl from the third village.
- News Report: Pretend to be reporters covering the pollution problem — include “field interviews” and opinions from the river and village residents.
- Soundscape Creation: Use body percussion or instruments to build two contrasting soundscapes: A clean, peaceful river versus a polluted, noisy, industrial river
- Eco Songwriting: Write a simple class song or rap with messages about protecting nature or stopping pollution. Perform it or record it like the children did in the story!