

My Winter Water Journal

One week of writing about water

This journal belongs to: _____



Tuesday

Yesterday, you wrote a list of all the things you use water for in a day. Now, let's think about ways we can save water. These might be things you already do, but they might also be things you have not tried yet. There are certain rooms in our homes where we tend to use water. Write down one way you can save water in each of the rooms listed below:

Kitchen: _____

Bathroom: _____

Laundry room: _____

Saturday

What does clean water mean to you? Describe what it is like to live in a world with clean water.

Friday

Have you ever heard someone say “all drains lead to the ocean”? The full story is a little more complicated. The water that goes down the drain in our shower or kitchen sink will eventually reach the ocean, and the runoff entering a storm drain will, too. There is a very important difference in the journey of wastewater and the journey of stormwater: wastewater (in the sewer) will first stop at a wastewater treatment plant before flowing to the ocean, but the stormwater will not! The stormwater will flow to the ocean *untreated*. Write about why this difference matters.

Wednesday

Where does our water come from? People haven't always been able to turn on their faucet to get clean water for drinking, cooking, and cleaning. Hundreds of years ago, people would have had to go directly to the nearest *water resource* to get their water, such as a river. In some parts of the world, people still have to travel daily to get the water they need.

Use the space below to answer the question: How would your life be different without modern water systems that bring water right into your home?

Thursday

The winter time is the rainy season in California. When it rains in our city, the water that falls on our houses, sidewalks, and streets becomes *runoff*. Runoff slides down the rooftop, gushes from gutters, and flows down the street. But where is it going?

It's going to the storm drain! Water isn't the only thing traveling down the street and into the drain – uh-oh! Along with the rainwater many pollutants will go. Circle three possible pollution sources below.



Identifying possible sources of pollution is the first step to preventing it. Use the table below to find a solution to each of the types of pollution you circled on the previous page:

Pollution Source (<i>what did you circle as a possible pollution source in the picture?</i>)	Solution (<i>describe what you should do to prevent this type of pollution from entering the storm drain</i>)
1.	
2.	
3.	