

DROPS OF KNOWLEDGE FOR RIVERS OF CHANGE



GLOBAL TEACHING
AND LEARNING MATERIAL

A hands-on guide to teaching
and learning about
water, sanitation, hygiene,
and the environment

SWAROVSKI
WATERSCHOOL

ACTIVITY 9.1: ORGANIZING A WASH AND ENVIRONMENT CLUB

To meet the objective of conducting active outreach in the community, WASH and Environment clubs can be formed by a working group that includes school administrators, teachers, and members of the student leadership team. Membership should represent students from all participating grades, with teacher guidance. The club can organize into committees according to the needs of the school as determined by the child-led mapping exercise that appears in **ACTIVITY 5.1**.

As part of WASH and Environment club activities, students can organize special events that draw the community's attention to WASH – water, sanitation, and hygiene – in the home. These activities can include informational street fairs and rallies, theater and dance, and musical performances. Such events can be organized as the culminating event of the club activities, in which the students who have learned about water issues present findings or lessons to the community in a meaningful and appealing fashion.

Time: 90 minutes per week / **Thematic Areas:** Social Studies, Language Arts / **Goal for Learning:** Promote awareness of and develop skills related to water, hygiene, sanitation, and the environment through fun and practical activities. Support students in changing conditions in their schools, as well as in becoming agents of change in their families and communities.



Materials: None

ACTIVITY STEPS:

- 1 WASH and Environment clubs are typically formed in two ways: (1) teachers who understand the responsibilities and the possible contributions required ask one or two students (gender balanced) from each grade level to volunteer; or (2) each class elects one or two trustworthy classmates to represent them.

ACTIVITY 9.1

- 2 As a general principle, the club will have an adult adviser who will work with student leaders to guide the group in terms of planning and harmonizing club activities, and a secretary who will keep records and correspondence. If needed, a treasurer will collect, account for, and keep funds in a safe place. Committees will have various tasks and responsibilities, as outlined in Step 4.
- 3 WASH and Environment club are encouraged to meet after school to develop a program of action, with guidance from teachers and/or parents. The club will train and mobilize students, and work in harmony with the school administration and parent-teacher association to make improvements related to WASH.
- 4 Roles and responsibilities of WASH and Environment club members include:
 - Recruit more volunteer club members
 - Train new club members
 - Mobilize the school community to conduct cleanup sessions, tree planting, and other activities to enhance the school environment
 - Inspect water points, latrines, and hand-washing stands so that they are kept clean, safe, and attractive
 - Organize fund-raising projects to construct facilities, buy soap, maintain facilities, etc.
- 5 Arrange outreach projects and work with communities on activities such as cleanup campaigns, latrine construction, rehabilitation of community water sources, and other locally important WASH improvements.

ADDITIONAL
RESOURCES:

Kids Right to Know, “Start a School Club,” www.kidsrighttoknow.com/forming-clubs