



## TWDB Kids K-12 Educational Resources

The **TWDB Kids** web portal, [www.twdb.texas.gov/kids](http://www.twdb.texas.gov/kids), serves as the gateway to the agency's K-12 educational resources. *TWDB Kids* features teachers' guides, visualizations, interactive games, and other activities to help students learn about key water resource concepts.

The place to begin water education is in the school classroom. School programs can result in both short- and long-term water savings. The information students learn is often shared with their parents and affects the water use patterns in their households. Youth who are educated about water resources are also more likely to make life-long behavioral changes.

TWDB scientific research forms the cornerstone for these programs. They include units developed for specific age groups and range from coloring books for younger children to complete curricula for older students, with teachers' guides and Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) guidelines. Interactive web games and lessons are also featured.

**The Water for Texas coloring and activity book** is a popular publication that engages young children in exploring Texas water resources. It features Grandpa Lizard, Sally Mander, Amanda Armadillo, and Billy the Bull. Aimed at K-3 students, the coloring book teaches them about the importance of water resources and water conservation. The coloring books may be ordered from the TWDB or downloaded as a PDF from the *TWDB Kids* website.

**Major Rivers** is a multidisciplinary program that includes a teachers' guide in hardcopy and on CD-ROM, colorful and engaging student workbooks and take-home leaflets, and an introductory movie on DVD. The character Major Rivers, along with his horse, Aquifer, has been visiting Texas 4th and 5th grade classrooms for over 25 years. The program teaches students where water comes from, how to protect water resources, and how to use water wisely. *Major Rivers* has been updated to incorporate the latest information from the TEKS requirements for students. Student materials for *Major Rivers* are available in both English and Spanish language versions.

**Raising Your Water IQ** is an inquiry-based, hands-on approach to teaching middle school students about Texas water resources. This free program has a teachers' guide and includes lessons on: watersheds, water cycles, water treatment, groundwater, water in Texas, and wise water use.

**Water Exploration**, [www.WaterExploration.org](http://www.WaterExploration.org), is a web-based water education program for Texas high school students. By using a project-based learning approach, *Water Exploration* encourages students to conduct research and build an understanding about water science and critical water-related issues. Service learning is also incorporated into this program by challenging students to partner with community members to design and conduct a school water audit. This connects the students to their community by raising awareness about important water-related issues.

**Know Your Texas Water** is a resource for teachers and parents who would like to know more about Texas water. It features web quests, animations, maps, and other tools based on the TWDB's research, including the state water plan.

**Interactive games** are featured on the *TWDB Kids* website and include:

- **Surface Water and Groundwater** - Watch rivers flood, water infiltrate an aquifer, and droughts and floods affect people. And see the effects people have on water resources. Then test your knowledge with a vocabulary quiz!
- **Power of Many** - Come and check out how many football fields of water the state of Texas uses every year, and learn how much water can be conserved if everyone in your city and in the state of Texas followed those water conservation practices.
- **The Water Planner Game** - In this game, it is your job to make sure that Texas will have enough water for the future, even in times of drought. Learn about municipal, agricultural, and industrial water use; water sources; and water conservation tools.

To obtain more information regarding **TWDB Kids**, contact conservation staff at (512) 463-8830 or [consedu@twdb.texas.gov](mailto:consedu@twdb.texas.gov).

