

Understanding environmental action in a community context.

EXPLORING AND PARTICIPATING IN LOCAL RESPONSES TO WATER QUALITY ISSUES.

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

We all live downstream.

WHAT ARE WE LEARNING?

- Understanding how innovation creates challenges for people, places and environments.
- Exploring various aspects of an issue and make decisions about possible actions.
- Investigating effective environmental action projects for river clean up and restoration.

TRY THIS WITH

- Years 5 - 11
- Students who are passionate about the environment.
- Students who love designing projects.

FIND

- Observe
- Trace
- Outline
- Indicate
- Infer
- Generalise

Have each team present their water quality findings to the class.

Use google maps and satellite view to re-visit your stream again.

Watch 'Where we get our Fresh Water'.

Use Popplet to record things that each team thinks could be affecting stream health.

Find out the position of your local hapu/iwi on the health of the stream you investigated.

Play the Catchment Detox game to get to grips with long term issues of stream health.

Conduct local research on current initiatives – find out what is already happening.

Understand the Water Accord and Water Conservation Orders.

Identify an issue which if addressed could improve the stream health of your local site.



APPLY

- Categorise
- Classify
- Choose
- Distinguish
- Reorganise
- Research

Make a map of the current problem areas so you can speak from an informed position.

Investigate the types of solutions that successfully address the problems you identified.

Think back to the things you measured in your water quality assessment.

Check your solution addresses a risk you measured in your Water Quality testing.

Investigate what local people think and feel about the waterway you investigated.

Use a range of methods to collect your feedback – surveys, social media etc.

Work out how much support there is in your local community.

Hold an information evening for your community showing what you found.

Be inspired by groups like Limehills School and Kowhai Reach, Kauana.



PRODUCE

- Design
- Develop
- Convince
- Persuade
- Prioritise
- Conclude

Decide on a course of action that will reduce the impact of the water quality issue.

Identify and organise to speak to your local decision makers.

Consider making an application to your local council or a select committee hearing.

Possible Projects:

- Plan a streamside/riparian planting to improve stream bank stability and reduce erosion.
- Offer to provide the labour for one that is already organised.
- Identify a low lying area that is constantly boggy and investigate wetland creation.
- Go fishing for koi carp to remove them from the water ways.

Make a plan of action.

Apply for funding to make your plan happen.

Document your project and share the outcomes with your regional council.

SUCCESS CRITERIA

Students can check they have completed the task successfully by:

- Understanding an issue more broadly by engaging with the local iwi.
- Gathering feedback from local community members using a range of media.
- Identifying and executing a course of action to address local stream health.

PRINCIPLES	VALUES	KEY COMPETENCIES	LEARNING AREAS	WORD BANK	KEY CONCEPTS
Future Focus Community Engagement	Ecological Sustainability Community and Participation	Participating and Contributing Relating to others Thinking	Science Social Science	Consultation Feedback Riparian Waterway	Environmental Action Cause and Effect Mitigation Planning