

# Contents

## **Watersheds**

- How Big is the River Really?..... 1
- Color Me a Watershed..... 7

## **Wetlands**

- Plants: Nature's Filters..... 18
- Wetlands: Our Natural Purification System..... 23

## **Aquatic Organisms and Habitat**

- Creek Critters..... 28
- Biological Monitoring of Streams..... 34
- Stream Survey..... 42
- Terrarium..... 51
- Hot and Cold..... 55
- Balance in an Aquatic Community..... 57
- Chesapeake Bay Habitats..... 61

## **Chemical Properties of Streams**

- Parts Per Million..... 66
- Drinking Water Quality..... 69
- How Much is Too Much?..... 73
- pH..... 76
- pH and Aquatic Organisms..... 80

## **Groundwater**

- Does it Soak Right In?..... 83
- Water Contamination Experiment..... 89
- Why Water Pollutes Easily..... 91
- Pollution in Groundwater..... 93
- Groundwater Recharge-Discharge..... 98

## **Water Pollution: Sediment**

- Invisible Passengers..... 101
- Muddying the Waters..... 104
- Erosion: Rubbing the Earth the Wrong Way..... 110

## **Water Pollution: Nutrients**

- Fertile Green: Nutrients and Water..... 112
- Nutrients in Lakes and Ponds..... 115

## **Water Pollution: Bacteria**

- Poison Pump..... 120

**Water Pollution: Hazardous and Toxic Waste**

- Hazardous Substance in My Home?..... 128
- Oil and Water Don't Mix..... 144

**Water Pollution: Litter and Solid Waste**

- Dilemmas! You Make the Decision..... 149
- Decomposition Experiment: Planting a "Reverse" Garden..... 159
- How Long Will it Be There?..... 161
- Nurture Some Nature..... 164

**Water Treatment**

- Nature's Cleaning Process..... 166
- Mini Water Treatment Simulation..... 172

**Policy/Decision-Making**

- Read All About It..... 176
- Environmental Dilemmas..... 179
- Back to the Future..... 184