

Human Use Chapter Teacher Sheet



Activity #3: What You Can Do For the Tijuana Estuary

Objectives:

To understand the things people can do to help protect the Tijuana Estuary.

Time:

Approximately three or four 50-minute class periods are required.

Background:

Although people generally agree that estuaries need to be protected, they are unsure of the things they can do to help keep the estuary clean and free of pollution. In this activity, the students will prepare a brochure informing people of the things they can do.

Materials:

Access to a computer with Microsoft Word or other word processing software that includes a format for making brochures. You might also provide different colors of printer paper for the students to use.

Procedure:

Print a copy of Ways to Protect Estuaries.....At Home and at Play from the website at:

<http://www.estuaries.gov/protect.html>

Lead a class discussion on the things people can do to help protect the Tijuana Estuary. Make a list of student suggestions. Many of the suggestions can come from reading the Human Use section.

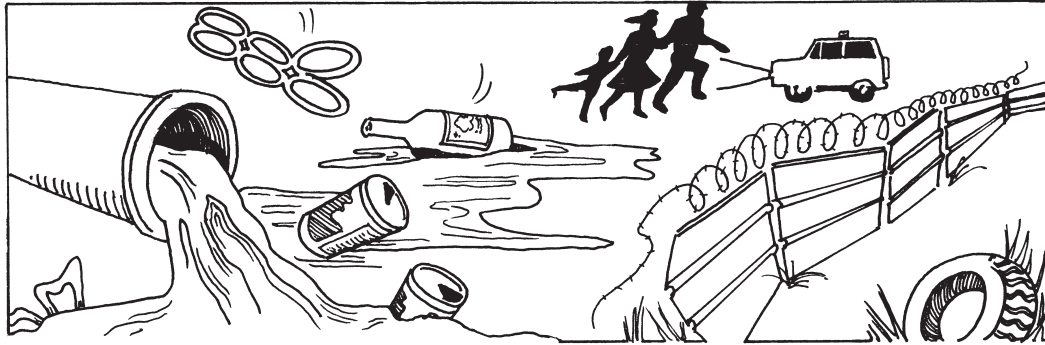
Hand out a copy of Ways to Protect Estuaries from estuaries.gov to students. Ask students to compare the estuaries.gov list to the list the students have generated.

Hand out a copy of the student sheet to each student and explain their assignment, giving a due date for completion of their brochures.

It would be helpful to display a brochure to the class so they can see how one is organized.

Note: There are no student questions included with this activity.

Human Use Chapter Student Sheet



Activity #3: What You Can Do For the Tijuana Estuary

PURPOSE:

After completing this activity, you will understand the things people can do to protect the Tijuana Estuary.

INTRODUCTION:

The Tijuana Estuary Visitor Center needs your help! Many visitors to the Estuary ask what they can do to help keep the estuary clean and free of pollution. The Visitor Center staff can tell people what they need to do, but they need some kind of brochure that they can give people to take home with them. People frequently forget the things they learn at the Visitor Center, so having some kind of brochure to take home with them will help them remember. They would also be able to show the brochure to their families and neighbors so other people can be aware of how they can help, too.

Your task will be to make a brochure that the Visitor Center can give out to people.

MATERIALS:

Access to a computer with Microsoft Word or other word processing software that includes a format for making brochures. Your teacher might provide different color printer paper for you to use. List of Ways to Protect Estuaries from estuaries.gov.

PROCEDURE:

A brochure is a piece of paper that has been folded into thirds horizontally. The top of the folded paper is the cover. There are four or five sections for information, and the last part is the back of the folded brochure. To begin your brochure, complete the following steps:

1. Design an exciting and inviting cover that will get people interested in what's inside the brochure.
2. Decide on 4 different things people can do to protect estuaries from the list your class made, and design one section of your brochure for each item. Include pictures and graphics to make each section appealing and interesting.
3. Design the back cover of your brochure. You might to include your name, school name, etc. Don't put any personal information on the brochure such as your address or phone number. Ask your teacher if you are unsure which information you should include.
4. Make your brochure using the available software on your computer, such as Microsoft Word. Print out a copy of your brochure to deliver or send to the Tijuana Estuary Visitor Center at 301 Caspian Way, Imperial Beach, CA 91932.



Welcome

National Estuaries Day

EstuaryLive

For Teachers

About Estuaries

- [Ways to Protect Estuaries](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Glossary](#)

Ways to Protect Estuaries...At Home

Protect at Play

Keep your septic system working properly. Improperly working septic system may leak nutrients that have harmful effects on the health of estuaries.

Use native plants in your garden. The use of native plants can reduce the need to fertilize and water because these plants are better adapted to the local climate and soil conditions.

Create non-toxic pesticides for your garden and lawn. A bit of soap and water does the job and keeps harmful chemicals from ending up in nearby waterways.

Reduce the your use of fertilizer on your lawn and in your garden. Leave grass clippings on the lawn. Clippings decompose and are an efficient, natural fertilizer.

Conserve water.

Water your lawn only when needed and wait until the evening when it is cooler and the water will evaporate less quickly.

Keep paved surfaces to a minimum.

Hard surfaces hasten runoff and increase pollution, erosion and flooding in your watershed.

Curb run-off.

When storm water is a problem, create a path or ledge to both capture run-off and filter possible pollutants through a patch of sand.

Think before you pour and don't litter.

Hazardous products and street litter may flow from household drains and storm drains through sewage treatment plants and into coastal bodies of water.

Explore safe alternatives to harsh household products.

Baking soda or table salt, for instance, are safe substitutes for abrasive cleaners.

Learn more about estuaries!

•Contact your local National Estuarine Research Reserve:
<http://nerrs.noaa.gov>

•Contact US Environmental Protection Agency:
www.epa.gov/owow/estuaries

