



# Adopt A Stream

## Sign up for free environmental resources for 2009

Watercare Services Ltd, Auckland's bulk water and wastewater service provider, offers schools in the Auckland region a free environmental science programme called Adopt A Stream which is aligned to the national curriculum.

Classes that sign up for 2009 will enjoy participating in hands-on class and field-based lessons. Pupils will learn about the water cycle and the fundamental relationship between water and all living things.

The teaching kit is comprehensive and easy to follow. However, if you are new to Adopt A Stream our project co-ordinator, Sally Smith, can visit your school to deliver the lessons. She can introduce your pupils to freshwater macroinvertebrates and help them test the health of your local stream. She can also meet with your staff or syndicate after school to introduce the kit and to outline the other water resources available to support your studies.

The teaching kit includes:

- Teacher's manual
- Class set of water testing equipment
- Posters on which you can display field trip results

The programme is directed towards years five to eight but can be adapted to suit older and younger pupils. If you don't have a nearby stream you can combine an Adopt A Stream field trip with a Rain Forest Express train ride in the Waitakere Ranges. Pupils will be able to do their water testing at Nihotupu Stream.



Examples of resources available to support the Watercare's Adopt A Stream programme



"Highly successful – both the classroom introductory session and the testing at the stream the following day. Great resources, we look forward to introducing the programme into the senior school in 2009." – Westmere School.



"Fantastic! Perfectly pitched for our Year 5s. They were enthralled and learned lots." – Taupaki School.



"Awesome! Great support from Sally Smith. Utilised every aspect of the manual to suit the Kura." – Te Kura Akonga O Manurewa.

These were some of the responses to a recent questionnaire on the Adopt A Stream programme.

The lucky winners of the questionnaire prize draw – a train trip for two on the Rain Forest Express – were from Taupaki School.

Adopt A Stream was developed by Watercare as a free environmental education resource kit for school pupils in the Auckland region.

Phone: (09) 539 7316 • Email: ssmith@water.co.nz • Website: www.watercare.co.nz



## Adopt A Stream An environmental education programme

### Lessons with a difference

If your class has already carried out water testing and would like to try something different, why not try one of our other lessons?

#### Stormwater

Our stormwater lessons will enable your pupils to:

- Understand the difference between stormwater and wastewater drains
- Experiment with running water
- Build a reservoir to hold five litres of water
- Understand how some animals can be harmed by things going down the drain

#### Drinking water

Our drinking water lessons will enable your pupils to:

- Understand where water comes from, how it is treated and how it gets to the tap
- Carry out water filtering exercises, with prizes for the cleanest water



*Pre-schoolers from Kids World, Avondale, make dams to store the rain water*

#### Wastewater

Our wastewater lessons will enable your pupils to:

- Understand how wastewater is treated
- Make their own salt water rainbow

### Time for some research?

Book the Watercare library display and let your pupils read about how drinking water and wastewater are treated.

The display has a set of questions for pupils to answer and is available to schools for a two week period. It can be set up in the library or in a classroom.



### Environmental dates for your diary

11 DECEMBER 2008 –  
International Mountain Day

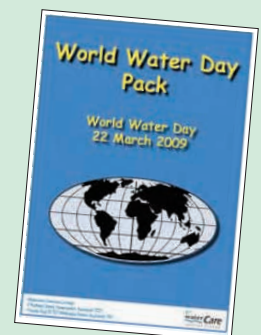
AND DON'T FORGET

22 MARCH 2009 – World Water Day

Watercare is producing a World Water Day Package for use in schools in March 2009.

To order either a printed or CD package, please email Sally Smith stating which format you would prefer, your full name and the postal address of your school.

The packs will be available in February.



For Adopt A Stream please contact Sally Smith:  
Phone (09) 539 7316 • Mobile 021 987 316 • Email [ssmith@water.co.nz](mailto:ssmith@water.co.nz)  
To charter the Rain Forest Express please call (09) 302 8028

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