

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	i
CHAPTER 1.	
Lake Pontchartrain Basin: A Watershed	3
Water in the Basin	10
Travelin' Through the Basin: Guided Imagery	1
Learning about the Basin	12
Travelin' Troupe	16
Surfin' the Basin....and Beyond	18
CHAPTER 2.	
Why Worry about Wetlands?	25
Countdown Calendar	27
Lake Log	34
How Healthy is This Wetland?	35
Where Have all the Wetlands Gone?	37
Bird Beak Buffet	39
Environmental Barometer	43
Fibonacci Hunt: Go for the Gold!	47
CHAPTER 3.	
The Magic of the Estuary	57
Music of the Estuary	67
Magical Images of the Estuary	68
Estuary Interviews	71
Estuary Issues/Creative Problem Solving	72
What Does It Take To Be an Estuary Inhabitant?	78
CHAPTER 4.	
Rollin' Down the River: Riverine Systems	85
Headlines.....	86
Issues about Rivers.....	93
Problems with Rivers	96

.....

Questions about Rivers	98
Drainage Detectives	101
CHAPTER 5.	
Liquid Assets: Our Water Resources	105
Water Cycle Walk.....	107
Daily Water Use	109
Lake Pontchartrain Basin Water Quality Factors	113
Mini Action Plan	119
Journaling	122
How's the Water? Water Quality Monitoring and Reporting	126
CHAPTER 6.	
Natural Resources of the Lake Pontchartrain Basin	139
How We See the Puzzle	145
Goals, Interactions, Outcomes	147
The Effects of Agricultural Fertilizer Runoff Upon Aquatic Ecosystems	152
Salt is Good on Sunflower Seeds, But what about Cypress?	156
"I AM" Poems: Basin Poetry	158
CHAPTER 7.	
Ecosystems in Delicate Balance: Threatened, Endangered, and Introduced Species of the Lake Pontchartrain Basin	169
Decision Making and Issue Analysis	179
Ecosystem Tumble	185
I'm a Survivor	189
CHAPTER 8.	
The Forces are with Us: Natural Forces Affecting the Basin	197
What Happens When Sea Level Rises or Falls?	202
Hurricane	206
Hurricane II	209
Linking Lake Factors	211
Thinking at Right Angles.....	212

.....

.....

Subsidence/Erosion: What Can We Do?	213
“C-Mail”	216
The Pontchartrain Picayune	217
Multimedia Presentation	221
Help! I’m Up to My Hips in Water	2 2 2

CHAPTER 9.

Resource Management: Land Use in and Around the Lake Pontchartrain Basin 2 2 9

Understanding Land Use Practices.....	2 3 0
The Loss of Wetland Ecosystems in the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Associated with Population Increases	2 3 6
Home Sweet Home.....	2 3 8
Reality Check: Ground-truthing Maps	2 4 2

CHAPTER 10.

Moments in Time: Exploring the History of the Lake Pontchartrain Basin..... 2 4 9

Exploring the Lake Pontchartrain Basin	257
Dramatization of the Discovery of the Lake Pontchartrain Basin ...	2 6 0
Dramatic Time Line	2 6 2
The Cultures of the Lake Pontchartrain Basin.....	2 6 6
The Great Pontchartrain Pursuit	271
“Marsh Mysteries”: A Quiz on Louisiana’s Wetlands	2 8 5

CHAPTER 11.

Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation: Field Trips and Investigations 2 9 3

Wetland Activities	3 0 2
Urban Stormwater Activities	312
Activities to Accompany Other Field Trips	315

APPENDIX A: Maps and Overlays

APPENDIX B: Science Content Strands and Benchmarks

APPENDIX C: National Science Education Standards Content Strands

**APPENDIX D: Environmental Education in Cyberspace: Internet Resources for
Teachers and Students**



