



Water Kids: An Educational Campaign for Children to Learn about Guam's Water and How to Protect It.



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The environmental educational materials about water resource issues in earth science textbooks and online at the websites of government agencies now available to Guam children and educators are focused on conditions existing on the U.S. mainland. These materials and accompanying illustrations and images do not fully address basic features of Guam's fresh water resources and the island's critical need to protect and conserve them. The island's unique needs must be taken into consideration if an understanding of the importance of Guam's fresh water as a key resource in our lives and a sense of stewardship are to be developed.

The project proposed here will create materials that will support teachers of children from 9 to 12 years of age about Guam's fresh water resources and will serve children interested in individual study. The materials will feature Guam-based issues and images including photos of Guam children engaged in discovery activities, Guam place names, English-Chamorro vocabulary, and typical island flora, fauna and geological features. Interactive Flash™ animation will be used to illustrate basic concepts such as how an aquifer functions using the unique specifics of Guam's aquifer.

The following components will be developed: a (1) "GUAM WATER KIDS" WEBSITE with corresponding downloadable lesson plans for teachers and group leaders; (2) a CD ROM PRESENTATION in PowerPoint™ with animation that can be used as (a) a scripted or extemporaneous slideshow, (b) a stand-alone Presentation with pre-recorded narrator and music, and (c) a continuous "unmanned"

Presentation in an exhibit booth, and (3) EXHIBIT banner and POSTERS promoting Guam water conservation awareness and the web address and (4) COLLATERAL promotional items (a) a direct mailing of postcards to announce the website, (b) a recycled sports bottle to remind children of the website and water issues, and (c) "business" cards with water conservation tips and the web address.

The objectives of the project are to provide:

1. An online resource for teachers and other youth leaders that will enable them to share the importance of Guam's water resources and the need for protecting them.
2. A website for youth to independently explore Guam's water resources while developing a sense of stewardship.
3. A convenient Presentation that WERI professionals can use to fulfill speaking invitations at schools, career days, and other gatherings of youth groups, and to enhance exhibit opportunities with a narrated CD Rom Presentation and a portable exhibit banner with the purpose of sharing the importance of Guam's fresh water resources with children age 9-12.
4. An ongoing reminder of the importance of Guam's water resources and publicize the Guam Water Kids website address to children, teachers, village mayors and youth organizations.