

# ***From the Mountains to the Estuary: From the Schoolyard to the Bay***

**Meaningful Watershed Experiences  
for Grade 6 Students**

**Created by:**



**With grant support from  
The NOAA Bay Watershed Education Training (B-WET) Program**



**In partnership with:**



**Occoquan Bay National Wildlife Refuge  
Manassas Battlefield National Park**



## ***Exploring the Watershed***

Cacapon Institute e-school

### **Overview:**

Students will explore an interactive web site that investigates causes of stream pollution and how to clean it up. They will also be introduced to benthic macroinvertebrates and learn how they help to indicate water quality.

### **Materials:**

- Computer with internet access
- Composition Notebook

### **Setting the Stage:**

Ask the students to list some ways that water can become polluted. Tell them that they are going to play an online game where they get to try to clean up a polluted stream

### **Acquisition of Learning:**

#### Part I

1. Have students access <http://www.cacaponinstitute.org/middle.htm>
2. Have them click on the Stream Clean Slide Show in the window. Explain that they will use the information from the slideshow to play the game.
3. After they have viewed the slideshow, have them click on The Stream Cleaner Activity that is listed on the blackboard
4. Have them follow the instructions on the computer to help to clean up the stream.
5. Have them record in their notebooks if they were able to make the stream cleaner and if so, how?

#### Part II

6. Next, have the students click on the BMI tablet on the table.
7. Have them click on the "What is a BMI?"
8. After reviewing the slideshow, have your students click on "Sedimentation Blues"
9. Students should record in their notebooks what happens when the stream gets too polluted.

### **Closure:**

Ask the students to record three interesting things that they learned from the web site.  
Review the answers.