

# All About Watersheds

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5th graders in Mrs. Morgan's class

## What are Watersheds?

Watersheds are areas of land that drain water and snow melt into a common body of water like a lake or river and eventually the ocean. In fact no matter where you're standing you're in a watershed. There are about 2,207 watersheds in the US alone. Watersheds are important because without them we wouldn't have fresh water to drink. That's why we need to protect our watersheds.

## Why do we need to protect our watersheds?

We need to protect our watersheds because they help prevent floods, filter our drinking water and they support biodiversity. Biodiversity is the diversity of animals on our planet. It is important because it is essential for human survival and the health of our ecosystem. According to Google's AI without watersheds Earth would go into a "death spiral" where the world would face catastrophic flooding and extreme drought.

## How Mrs. Morgan's class helped our school's watershed

With the help of Mrs. Morgan and Mr. Buchanan, our STEM teacher, we completed a part of our PBL (Project Based Learning) by digging out an area on campus where a pipe was buried and clogged. The water that fell in this area was flooding the sidewalk. We dug up the old culvert pipe and restored the area. This drainage pipe allows all the water that falls in this area to flow down to the holding pond on campus.



