

Riparia's River

A RIF GUIDE FOR COMMUNITY COORDINATORS

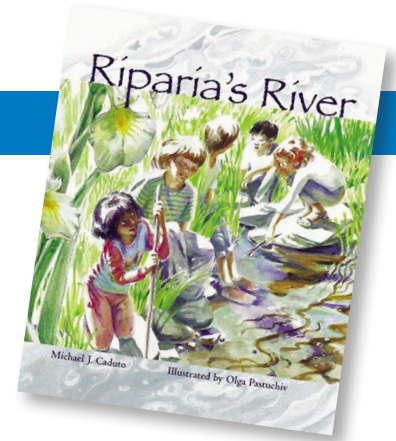
Themes: Ecology, Pollution, Teamwork, Problem Solving

Grade Level: 3rd to 5th grade

Book Brief: When their favorite swimming hole is ruined, a group of curious kids work together to find the cause and figure out a solution.

Author:
Michael J. Caduto

Illustrator:
Olga Pastuchiv



TIME TO READ!

Before reading: Show children the cover of the book. Ask if they have ever been swimming in a river, lake, or pond. What was the water like? How was it different from water in a swimming pool or bathtub?

RELATED ACTIVITIES

SLIME TIME! (AGES 9-12)

Materials: water, cornstarch, cups or bowls

Simulate water becoming slimy by letting kids make their own slime. Use a ratio of 1 part water to 2 parts cornstarch and allow kids to mix up small amounts of slime by adding the cornstarch to the water slowly. How does the water change as cornstarch is added? Is that the kind of water you would want to drink? Swim in?

POLLUTION PRINTS (AGES 9-12)

Materials: washable markers, spray bottle, paper

This art activity will help children visualize nonpoint pollution. Have each child color the tips of their fingers and thumb on one hand using different colored markers. Have them hold their hands as if they were holding a baseball, palm facing up. Using a water bottle, mist each child's hand so the colors begin to run down into their palms. How is this "runoff" like the

runoff in the story? Children can then make pollution prints by placing their hands on paper.

KEEP US POSTED (AGES 6-12)

Materials: construction paper or poster board, markers

Have children work in small groups to create posters about water pollution and how to prevent it. Display the posters for parents and community leaders to view. For a hands-on approach, have children collect trash along a river or in a park to put their words in action. Make sure to use gloves!

TECHNOLOGY LINK

Visit <https://www.epa.gov/waterdata/how-my-waterway> to learn more about where your water comes from and how you can keep it clean!



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

OTHER BOOKS ABOUT WATER

One Well: The Story of Water on Earth, Rochelle Strauss (2007),
A River Ran Wild: An Environmental History, Lynne Cherry (2002),
Come Back, Salmon, Molly Cone (2001).

TECHNOLOGY LINK FOR KIDS www.rif.org/kids

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