



## *Keep the Water Clean!*

Overview: Students will learn about different types of pollution that can be present in water, ways those types of pollution can be handled, what Areas of Concern are, and what can be done to clean up (and keep clean) Areas of Concern in the St. Louis River Estuary.

**Subject Areas:** Science

**Grade Levels:** K-5, 6-8, 9-12

**Topics:** Earth Science/Geology, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math), Water, Weather

### **Great Lakes Literacy Principles:**

1. The Great Lakes, bodies of fresh water with many features, are connected to each other and to the world ocean.
2. Natural forces formed the Great Lakes; the lakes continue to shape the features of their watershed.
4. Water makes Earth habitable; fresh water sustains life on land.
6. The Great Lakes and humans in their watersheds are inextricably interconnected.

### **Materials:**

- Keep the Water Clean! PowerPoint
- Large, deep tray or rectangular aquarium
- Sand or pebbles
- Water, Optional: dyed blue with food coloring
- Vegetable oil
- Confetti or small pieces of paper
- Kool-Aid, hot chocolate mix, or tea bags
- Sponges
- Tweezers
- Pipets

The PowerPoint goes along with the “set up” of the activity and explains every part you will be adding. After the PowerPoint, have students try to remove “pollutants” from the water using sponges, tweezers, and pipets.