

Student Workbook

Unit 1: Human-Nature Interaction

Cycle 2: Water Protectors



Name: _____

Date: _____

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Name _____

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Should bodies of water (i.e. rivers and lakes) have the same rights as humans?

DIRECTIONS: Use this Graphic Organizer to record notes from each text that responds to the question, or provide evidence for the question.

"We Are Water Protectors" book	"Autumn Peltier" video	"Should Lakes and Rivers Have the Same Rights as Humans?" text

Lesson 3:

Prefix Word Creation Game

DIRECTIONS: With a team, **write** as many mis- and un- words as you can think of in the spaces below. After 3 minutes, **compare** your words with other teams. Cross off words that are the same. **Then**, write definitions for the words that are left. You get a point for every correct definition! Use an extra sheet of paper if you run out of space.

Mis- words	Definition	Points	Un- words	Definition	Points
Total <u>un-</u> points:			Total <u>mis-</u> points		

Total un- + mis- points: _____

Lessons 4 and 5: Should Lakes and Rivers Have the Same Rights as Humans?



Protesters march against the Dakota Access oil pipeline in Pasadena, California, on January 2, 2017.

We take water for granted. We turn on the sink and there it is. We think it's our right in the United States to have water. Yet, water is a precious resource. It's not always where we need it, or there when we need it.

Life depends on water. Plants and animals need water to grow and reproduce. We are at risk when rivers and lakes are polluted. Yet, humans use water for many different reasons. For example: drinking, farming, energy, and plumbing.

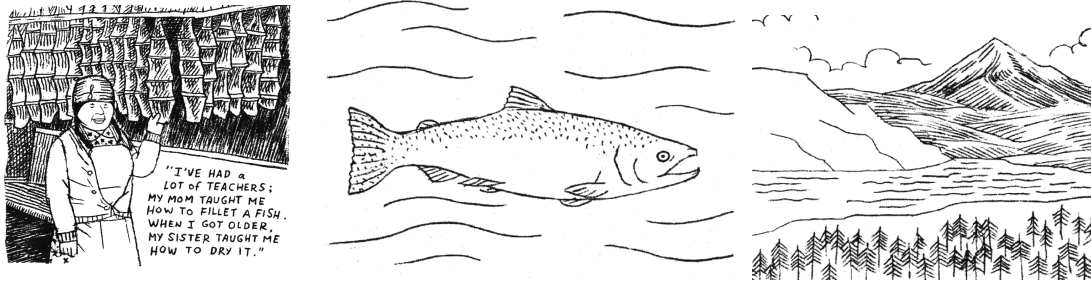
Some humans including Indigenous Peoples believe that we must protect sources of water and live in harmony with them. But others believe that they should be able to use water in any way that best meet their needs.

Some people believe water should have the same rights as humans. They argue that people who hurt water should be punished as if they hurt another human. Other people think this is not fair. They think it takes away their human right to use water freely to meet their needs to live.

Is the Klamath River a Person?

The Yurok people are a Native American tribe who live in Southern Oregon. They have lived peacefully near the Klamath River for a very long time. But in the 1800s, this Native American tribal land was invaded by European settlers. Many Native American tribes fought back to this invasion. But thousands of people were killed. Others were forced to leave their land and move to areas called reservations.

The White settlers took over the Yurok land and mistreated it. The mistreatment led to low levels of water in the Klamath River. It also caused less salmon fish to swim in the river.



In 2019, the Yurok people thought that something had to be done. They decided to officially recognize the Klamath River as a person! The Klamath River became the first river in North America to have the same legal rights as a human. The Klamath River now has the rights to exist, grow, and naturally change. They also got the right to be protected from being harmed by humans. Now, humans can be punished if they ever did something to damage the water.

The Klamath River is not the only body of water to be considered a person. Recently, people in Ohio voted to make Lake Erie a person. Other countries like New Zealand and Bangladesh have also done the same thing for their waters. This means all the waters are now considered by law to be living beings. Anybody who harms these waters will face consequences.

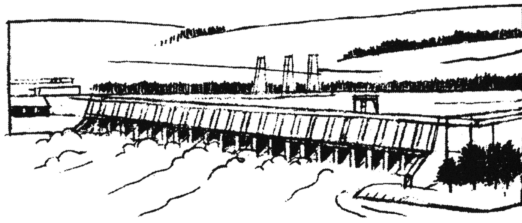


Don Gentry, chairman of the Klamath Tribes, says the tribes have not been able to fish for suckerfish for the past 27 years. "The condition of our fish is just so dire," he says.
Amelia Templeton for NPR

Opposition to Considering Water as a Person

This movement to consider water as a person has caused problems in many places. Some people have reasons for being against this idea. First, considering a river as a person means that dams have to be removed. A dam is a giant wall that is helpful in controlling floods. It also saves water for drinking. Without dams, there could be many problems.

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Cattle stand in a heavily irrigated pasture in Oregon's Upper Klamath Basin. The state has ordered ranchers in the region to shut down irrigation. The move is aimed at protecting the rights of Indian tribes who live downstream.
Annie Ferguson for NPR



Second, considering water as a person also means that ranchers have to shut down watering systems for their farms. Closing these systems can affect many farms.

People in Ohio are recently struggling with this problem. Toledo citizens voted that people can be punished if they pollute Lake Erie. But farmers argued that this law would make it very difficult for them to water their crops. Sometimes the water they use goes into Lake Erie and this can pollute the water. If they can't water their crops, they can't grow the vegetables they need to sell. That's not fair for the farmers!

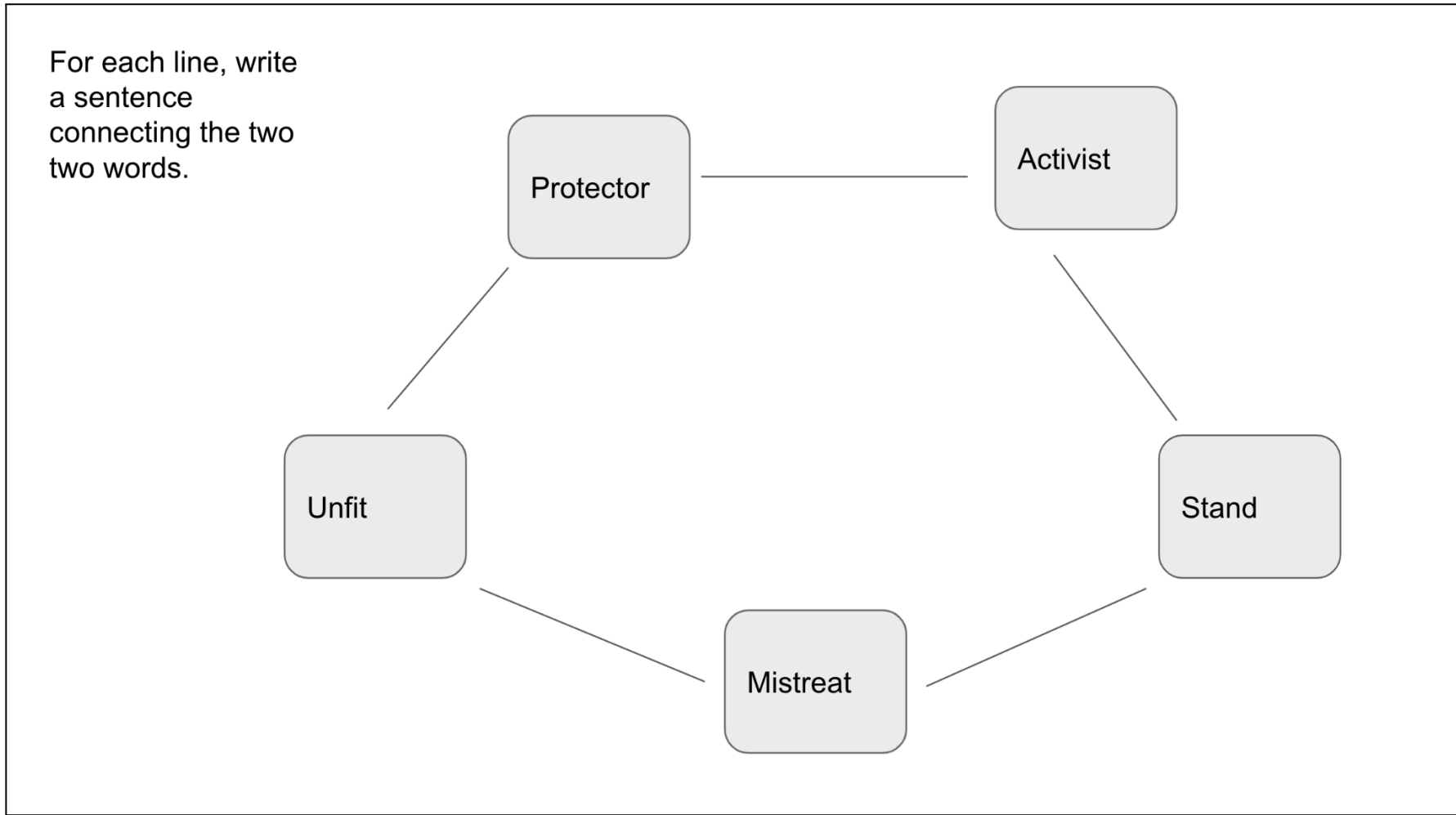
People are also arguing about the Dakota Access Pipelines. They say that the underground pipelines are important to move oil to different places in the United States. But the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe in North Dakota and environmental activists argued against it. They say that the pipelines could leak. Any leak would pollute the area and make their water unsafe to drink. The Dakota Access company said that their pipelines are safe. But people found leaks even before they finished construction. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers shut down the project to protect the environment.

The Debate Continues

The battle continues between water rights activists and business supporters. What do you think? What rights should water have? What rights should companies have? How should this battle be solved?

Lesson 4 Word Web

DIRECTIONS: For each connecting line, write a sentence connecting the two words or draw a picture that shows a connection between them.



Lesson 5 Tenses

DIRECTIONS: Write one sentence for each tense (past, present, future) that you can find from the article, “Should Lakes and Rivers Have the Same Rights as Humans?” After, discuss how you know those sentences are in the past, present, or future tense.

EXAMPLE

Sentence: *In 2019, the Yurok Tribe took a stand when they decided to officially recognize the Klamath River as a person!*



Sentence: _____



Sentence: _____



Sentence: _____



Lesson 6

Extension

Today, you will take this time to catch up on previous activities. Below are activities you can complete if you are done with all the previous activities.

1. Summarize the following people's perspectives:

- a. Standing Rock Sioux Tribe
- b. Autumn Peltier
- c. Oil and gas companies
- d. Environmental activists

2. Talk with a partner about each group's position.

Practice out loud how you will write your sentences.



3. After talking, write a few sentences that describe the perspectives that the different groups have taken on water protection. Then, add your own opinion. Use the next page to keep writing if you want!

(Proponents/Opponents) of water protection think water (should/should not) be protected because _____

In my opinion, _____

Additional Drawings and Writing Space

A large rectangular area with horizontal lines, intended for additional drawings and writing. The area is bounded by a thin black line on the top, bottom, and sides. The top boundary is a thick grey bar containing the section header. Below the header, there are 18 horizontal lines spaced evenly down the page, providing a grid for drawing and writing.

Lesson 6
Extension

Option 1: Extension Activity

Complete the 4 square map for new vocabulary words that were identified during the cycle. Create additional four-square vocabulary maps on your own paper.

Four-Square Vocabulary Map

Word	Definition or Picture
Synonym/Antonym	Translation to another language

Glossary

Target Word	Definition	Spanish Translation	Mandarin and Cantonese Translations	Context
Mistreat (verb)	To treat badly.	<i>maltratar</i>	虐待 nuè dài 虐待 joek6 doi6	“Humans have been mistreating Mother Earth for millennia, and Indigenous Peoples have long acted as stewards of the planet, giving a voice to our silent home.”
Protector (noun)	A person who protects or defends someone or something (take a stand).	<i>protector/ protectora</i>	保护者 bǎo hù zhě 保護者 bou2 wu6 ze2	In “ <i>We are Water Protectors</i> ”, the indigenous people in North Dakota are the protectors of water against the Dakota Access Pipeline.
Stand (verb / noun)	To move and remain in position, sometimes to defend or against something.	<i>representar</i>	代表 dài biǎo 代表 doi6 biu2	We are water protectors! We stand with the Standing Rock Sloux Tribe.
Unfit (adjective)	Not in good physical condition.	<i>impropia</i>	不合适 bù hé shì 不合適 bat1 hap6 sik1	In “ <i>We are Water Protectors</i> ”, the oil pipeline makes the water unfit to drink.

Language Targets		
Morphology		
Pro- forward/for	Op- against	-Or/-Er: a person who protects someone/something
Because of this, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers shut down the project to protect the environment.	People have a number of reasons for opposing this idea.	In <i>We are Water Protectors</i> , the Indigenous people are the protectors of water against the Dakota Access Pipeline.
<p>Create your own sentences using the prefix (pro-, op-) and suffix (-or/-er):</p> <hr/> <hr/>		
Mis- in a way that is bad or wrong	Un- giving negative or opposite meaning	
In <i>We are Water Protectors</i> , humans have mistreated our Mother Earth.	Now the black snake is here. Its venom burns the land and courses through the water, making it unfit to drink.	
Create your own sentence using the prefix: <hr/>	Create your own sentence using the prefix: <hr/>	
Syntax		
Verb tense	Meaning	
Past tense	Describes things that have already happened.	
Present tense	Describes things that are happening right now .	
Future tense	Describes things that will happen.	
<p>Sentence written in the past: The Yurok Tribe took a stand in 2019 when they decided to officially recognize the Klamath River as a person!</p>		
<p>Create sentences in the past, present or future tense:</p> <hr/> <hr/>		