

Background Statement on Project WET

Make a Splash with Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) is a national day of water education. It is celebrated across the United States with water festivals, which are educational, fun, and interactive water celebrations where students explore a diversity of water-related topics. Make a Splash takes place annually on the fourth Friday in September. This year's sixth annual water festival will be held on Friday, September 23, 2005. Water festivals will be held at over 125 locations in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Over 50,000 students are scheduled to participate in this year's event.

Water festivals consist of multiple structured learning stations where students actively engage in hands-on water activities and investigations. Station topics include the hydrologic cycle, ground water, spring water, water quality, wetlands, water management, water conservation, soils, and the properties of water.

Make a Splash with Project WET Water Festivals are designed to emphasize water education principles within a fun, interactive environment. Project WET Water Festivals provide a solid educational framework for teachers and students. While grounded in water science principles, water festivals also promote multidisciplinary approaches to learning by incorporating social studies, geography, language arts, art and journaling.

One of the core beliefs of Project WET is that wise water management is crucial for providing tomorrow's children with social and economic stability in a healthy environment. We also believe that awareness of and respect for water resources can encourage a personal, lifelong commitment of responsibility and positive community participation.

Project WET is a nonprofit water education program and publisher for educators and young people ages 5-18. The program facilitates and promotes awareness, appreciation, knowledge, and stewardship of water resources through the dissemination of classroom-ready teaching aids and the establishment of internationally sponsored Project WET programs.