

# POP! TEACHER RESOURCE

## Lesson Plan

### River Runoff

Lesson Plan for *Why Is the Ocean Salty?*

Grade 1

#### Objective

To help students identify the differences between similar texts about runoff and use context clues to determine the meaning of unfamiliar words.

#### Things Needed

- *Why Is the Ocean Salty?* book
- Access to the “Why Is the Ocean Salty?” web page on the Pop! website:  
<http://popbooksonline.com/science-questions/ocean-salty>

#### Before the Activity

Read *Why Is the Ocean Salty?* out loud to students. Open the “Why Is the Ocean Salty?” web page in your internet browser and pull up the “Learn More” tab.

#### Activity

Discuss how rivers carry minerals into the ocean. Use the following prompts:

- Turn to page 8. The book says, “Rivers erode the rocks they move through. Minerals from rocks dissolve in the river water. Rivers carry these minerals to the oceans.” Based on these sentences, what do you think it means to erode something? Have students check their answers in the glossary on page 23.
- What do you think it means for something to dissolve? Have students check their answers in the glossary on page 23.
- Turn to page 10. This page describes two other ways that minerals get to the ocean. Other than rivers, what else can carry minerals to the ocean? (Answer: rainwater and melting ice)
- Turn to page 11. The book says, “Some parts of the ocean receive more of this runoff.” Based on this sentence, what do you think runoff is? Have students check their answers in the glossary on page 23.



Then, read the caption on the “Learn More” web page. Ask students the following questions:

- What information did you already know about runoff? (Answer: Runoff can come from rivers, rainwater, or melting ice. Runoff carries minerals into the ocean.)
- What new information did you learn about runoff from this image and caption? (Answer: Runoff can also carry chemicals from farmlands into the ocean. These chemicals are used to protect crops. But the chemicals can be dangerous for ocean plants and animals.)

### **Evaluation**

Could students answer questions about runoff based on the information in the book? Could they identify the similarities and differences between the book and the text online?

### **Standards**

This lesson plan may be used to address the Common Core State Standards’ reading standards for informational texts, grade 1 (RI 1.5, 1.9).

