

HS General: Water Mediation

Students learn how conflicts involving water quality and quantity (and other issues) can be resolved through mediation.

Science

Str/std/bch	Performance Standard
II.II.I.	Ecosystems 9-12.3. Understand and describe how available resources limit the amount of life an ecosystem can support (e.g., energy, water, oxygen, nutrients). 4. Critically analyze how humans modify and change ecosystems (e.g., harvesting, pollution, population growth, technology).
III.I.I.	9-12. 9. Describe how scientific knowledge helps decision makers with local, national, and global challenges (e.g., Waste Isolation Pilot Project [WIPP], mining, drought, population growth, alternative energy, climate change). 9-12.12. Explain how societies can change ecosystems and how these changes can be reversible or irreversible. 9-12.13. Describe how environmental, economic, and political interests impact resource management and use in New Mexico.

Social Studies

Str/std/bch	Performance Standard
Geog.II.II-B.	9-12.2. Analyze how the character and meaning of a place is related to its economic, social, and cultural characteristics, and why diverse groups in society view places and regions differently. 9-12.3 Analyze and evaluate changes in regions and recognize the patterns and causes of those changes (e.g., mining, tourism).
Geog.II.II-D.	9-12.1. Analyze how the Earth's physical processes are dynamic and interactive. 9-12.2. Analyze the importance of ecosystems in understanding environments. 9-12.3. Explain and analyze how water is a scarce resource in New Mexico, both in quantity and quality. 9-12.4. Explain the dynamics of the four basic components of the Earth's physical systems (atmosphere, biosphere, lithosphere, and hydrosphere).
Econ.IV.IV-A.	9-12.5. Describe and analyze how economic incentives allow individuals, households, businesses, governments, and societies to use scarce human, financial, and natural resources more efficiently to meet economic goals.

Extension – Ask students to research one of the topics presented in this activity and to actually take the case to a mock courtroom.

Information about how to set up a mock court in your classroom is at

http://www.19thcircuitcourt.state.il.us/bkshelf/resource/mt_conduct.htm

or visit http://www.swa.org/pdf/hs_post_pre_lesson.pdf, to find a mock trial set up for a Florida river which could easily be changed to the Rio Grande.

See Standards and Benchmarks above.