



# Stormwater Science

Free Education for your 6-12<sup>th</sup> grade classroom

From the Bosque Ecosystem Monitoring Program

Stormwater Science teaches that the health of the Rio Grande is directly tied to the health of the surrounding watershed and arroyos. Through understanding that runoff comes from all over the city, we empower students and show them that they can make a difference in improving the condition of our river.

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- ◆ **NM Watersheds:** What are they, where are they and which one do we live in?
- ◆ **River Ecology:** What is REALLY in *our* river water? How are living and non-living components interacting with each other?
  - ◆ *E.coli* and other pollutants: What is it and how can I help reduce its presence?
- ◆ **What Happens to our River After a Storm?** This activity, created on your classroom floor, has students illustrate the changes our river can experience after a precipitation event.
- ◆ **Learn What You and Your Students can do?** Keeping the Rio Grande clean and healthy is about keeping *our* entire watershed clean and healthy.

All BEMP curriculum is aligned to NM Science Standards: for detailed information visit <http://bemp.org/education-outreach/>





BEMP offers 2 **Free** Stormwater Science education experiences:

### **Start with Stormwater Science in the classroom**

A BEMP Educator will visit your classroom and walk your students through an interactive model of a watershed that demonstrates how communities affect river ecology before and after a storm event.

- Students will build a large watershed model on the floor that shows the different types of communities that surround the Rio Grande.
- Students will complete a worksheet that follows the model and highlights what types of runoff enter the river.
- The program lasts 1 hour and can be modified to fit in your class period.

### **Then choose one of the following extentions:**

#### **Stormwater Science Study Trip**

Hike through an arroyo and the bosque with a BEMP educator in Albuquerque or Rio Rancho. Look for evidence of runoff and pollution, perform water quality tests at the Rio Grande.

- Students will hike through & around a local arroyo and the Rio Grande bosque.
- Students will examine the litter found in and around the arroyo and perform water quality tests at the Rio Grande to determine the health of the river.
- Study trips last approximately 3.5 hours and include a picnic lunch. Limit 30 students per trip.

#### **Stormwater Science Lab**

Test the water quality of the Rio Grande with a BEMP educator in your classroom. Analyze water quality data and identify potential sources of pollution around school.

- Students will perform water chemistry tests on river and tap water and analyze data.
- Survey your school campus for storm drains and sources of pollution to understand how runoff moves through school.

To schedule a Stormwater Science activity, please contact BEMP Educator

Kelly Steinberg:

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◆ BEMP has (limited) funding for bus transportation ◆