

UNDERSTANDING THE CHESAPEAKE BAY





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INTRODUCTION

In *Understanding the Chesapeake Bay*, students will learn about the geography of the Chesapeake Bay – the workplace of the waterman. Students will have the opportunity to examine maps and make models as they explore the relationship between people and the Bay. They will develop a better understanding of the role that the Bay has played in human settlement, and the past and present impact of humans on the Chesapeake Bay.

Activity Descriptions

Activity 1: GEOGRAPHY OF THE CHESAPEAKE BAY

Students will identify the states, the rivers, and the location of their homes on a map of the Chesapeake Bay watershed. They will create a diagram to illustrate the difference between groundwater and runoff.

Activity 2: THE WORKINGS OF THE BAY

Students will make a model of a watershed to demonstrate how small streams join to become rivers and then flow into the Bay and observe how pollution introduced into the watershed ends up in the Bay. They will conduct an experiment to investigate how an estuary works.

Activity 3: MARYLAND MAP STUDY

Students will use a Maryland map to practice problem-solving skills in a cooperative group setting and to expand their knowledge of the Chesapeake Bay region.

Activity 4: CHESAPEAKE Bay Gateways Map Activities

Students will carry out a series of activities using the *Chesapeake Bay Gateways Map* to develop skills in knowledge, comprehension, application, synthesis, analysis, and evaluation (Bloom's Taxonomy).

Vocabulary – Understanding the Chesapeake Bay

Bay: an inlet of the sea.

Estuary: a somewhat closed body of water where fresh water mixes with salt water.

Watershed: all of an area where, when rain falls, it drains into one common river, bay, or other body of water.

Websites

www.marylandroads.com

www.baygateways.net

www.aqua.org