

# The Shallows

Topic: Water treatment and pollution  
(5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade)

## The Shallows

What's floating in your water, there Kimberly?  
Just a little Iron, and some magnesium  
What does that say about the quality?  
How many other molecules cause disease-ium  
Following standards by the EPA  
Yea the concentration is acceptable – today  
EPA, come measure the acidity  
PH must be neutral, 7 would be beautiful  
The hardness of water, that is tough to clean  
Magnesium and calcium, clogging my pipes full  
Coliform count more than 5%  
Don't drink it down...well, do you feel real bad yet?  
Hm...there's something in the water

### Chorus:

Eutrophication from the fertilizer  
Blocks out the light like a thick sun visor  
While point source pipes dumping sludge in the water - oh  
Causing this pollution  
While, government government makes laws to protect "the shallows"  
oh we oh oh

Now we filter water from a public lake  
Screens remove the particles, branches and barnacles  
Chemical added that coagulates  
Sticky sticky floccs, making basins functional  
Little floating globs settle down at the bottom  
Are they easy to remove – oh yea, we got 'em  
Filter once more using sand and gravel  
Would you care to remove all of the algae and bacteria?  
Add the chlorination and then stir with a paddle  
Kill the microorganisms in this area  
Air through the water to reduce the smell  
I'll fix it up. Aeration is a-kinda swell  
Hm...there's something in the water

Plant roots filter and absorb all the metals and chemicals  
While bacteria can eat some oil at the time of the spill  
If you reuse the water  
Yea and cool the water  
You can reuse the water  
Gosh, I hope they will

Human human waste can really cause some disease  
Cholera, cholera - it's such a follower  
Treatment plants, remove all of it please  
Clean it up, serve it up – give me what I prefer  
Industrial waste, from factories and mines  
Can cause non point source - where pollution can't be tied  
Chemicals dumped cause a reaction chain  
Toxic chemicals, lets be sensible  
Smoke and exhaust result in acid rain  
Cars and smoke stacks...emitting the dispensable  
Heat pollution gets some hot hot water  
And heats it up...more than southern Nicaragua  
Hm...there's something in the water

## **Student Lyric Guide**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## The Shallows

### What's floating in your water, there Kimberly?

Define concentration: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Just a little iron, and some magnesium What does that say about the quality?

Define water quality: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

List 2 harmless substances commonly found in water.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

List 2 harmful substances found in drinking water.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

### How many other molecules could cause disease-ium Following the standards by the EPA

What is the name of the government organization that controls water, air and land quality?

\_\_\_\_\_

The EPA was established in the year \_\_\_\_\_.

Why was the EPA established? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Yea the concentration is acceptable – today EPA, come measure the acidity

3 factors that affect water quality

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

What does pH measure? \_\_\_\_\_

pH is measured on a scale from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_. Water with a low pH is very \_\_\_\_\_.

Water with a high pH is very \_\_\_\_\_.

### PH must be neutral, 7 would be beautiful

Pure water has a pH of \_\_\_\_\_.

Drinking water must have a pH of \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ as set by the EPA.

**The hardness of water, that is tough to clean  
Magnesium and calcium, clogging my pipes full**

Hardness of water is defined as the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ present in the water.

What are two drawbacks of hard water? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Coliform count more than 5%**

The amount of the bacteria \_\_\_\_\_ found in water is referred to as the \_\_\_\_\_.

Where are E. coli found? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the EPA coliform count allowed in drinking water? \_\_\_\_\_

What does a high coliform count indicate about drinking water? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Don't drink it down...well, do you feel real bad yet?**

What disease can result from drinking water with a high coliform count? \_\_\_\_\_

**Hm...there's something in the water  
Eutrophication from the fertilizer**

Define eutrophication: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Blocks out the light like a thick sun visor**

How does the use of fertilizers in farming increase the rate of eutrophication? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**While point source pipes dumping sludge in the water – oh  
Causing this pollution**

Define water pollution: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The substance causing the water pollution is called the \_\_\_\_\_

List two types of water pollution.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

Define point source pollution: \_\_\_\_\_

List two examples of point source pollution.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

**While, government government makes some laws to protect “the shallows”  
oh we oh oh**

Why does the government make laws to protect the shallows? \_\_\_\_\_

**Now we filter water from a public lake  
Screens remove the particles, branches and barnacles**

Where is our local drinking water stored before it's treated? \_\_\_\_\_

Why does water need to be treated before it is drinkable? \_\_\_\_\_

The first step to treating drinking water is \_\_\_\_\_.

What happens in this step? \_\_\_\_\_

**Chemical added that coagulates**

The second step to treating drinking water is \_\_\_\_\_.

Define coagulation: \_\_\_\_\_

**Sticky sticky flocs, making basins functional**

A chemical, called \_\_\_\_\_, causes sticky globs called \_\_\_\_\_

to form. Particles that stick to the flocs include \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

**Little floating globs settle down at the bottom**

**Are they easy to remove – oh yea, we got ‘em**

The third step to treating drinking water is \_\_\_\_\_.

What happens in settling basins? \_\_\_\_\_

**Filter once more using sand and gravel**

The 4<sup>th</sup> step to treating drinking water is \_\_\_\_\_.

What substances filter the water in the 2<sup>nd</sup> filtration? \_\_\_\_\_

**Would you care to remove all of the algae and bacteria?**

What substances are removed from the water during 2<sup>nd</sup> filtration? \_\_\_\_\_

**Add the chlorination and then stir with a paddle  
Kill the microorganisms in this area**

The 5<sup>th</sup> step to treating drinking water is \_\_\_\_\_

Why is chlorine added to drinking water? \_\_\_\_\_

**Air through the water to reduce the smell  
I'll fix it up. Aeration is a-kind a swell**

The 6<sup>th</sup> step to treating drinking water is \_\_\_\_\_

Why is drinking water aerated? \_\_\_\_\_

**Hm...there's something in the water**

Additional substances that may be added to drinking water include

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

**Plant roots filter and absorb all the metals and chemicals**

How do plants help cleanup water pollution? \_\_\_\_\_

**While bacteria can eat some oil at the time of a spill**

How are bacteria used to clean up oil spills? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the name of the largest oil spill in history? \_\_\_\_\_

How much oil was spilled? \_\_\_\_\_

**If you reuse the water  
Yea and cool the water  
Reuse the water**

How can dumping hot water into streams harm the environment? \_\_\_\_\_

What is a solution to heated water pollution? \_\_\_\_\_

**Gosh, I hope they will  
Human human waste can really cause some disease**

One major source of water pollution is \_\_\_\_\_.

**Cholera, cholera - it's such a follower**

What is cholera? \_\_\_\_\_

How is cholera spread? \_\_\_\_\_

**Treatment plants, remove all of it please  
Clean it up, serve it up – give me what I prefer**

Two ways to treat human waste water are

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

**Industrial waste, from factories and mines**

A second major source of water pollution is \_\_\_\_\_

**Can cause non point source - where pollution can't be tied**

Define nonpoint source pollution: \_\_\_\_\_

**Chemicals dumped cause a reaction chain**

**Toxic chemicals, let's be sensible**

One type of industrial waste water pollution is \_\_\_\_\_

List examples of chemical water pollution and label as point or nonpoint source.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

Smoke and exhaust result in acid rain

**Cars and smoke stacks...emitting the dispensable**

A second type of industrial waste pollution is \_\_\_\_\_

What does smoke and exhaust pollution cause? \_\_\_\_\_

Why is acid rain harmful? \_\_\_\_\_

**Heat pollution gets some hot hot water**

**And heats it up...more than southern Nicaragua**

A third type of industrial waste pollution is \_\_\_\_\_

What is heat pollution? \_\_\_\_\_

**Hm...there's something in the water**

## **Teacher Key**

Name: KEY

Water treatment and pollution

## The Shallows

### What's floating in your water, there Kimberly?

Define concentration: amount of one substance in a certain volume of another substance

#### Just a little iron, and some magnesium

#### What does that say about the quality?

Define water quality: measurement of the substances in water besides water (both harmful and nonharmful)

List 2 harmless substances commonly found in water.

1. iron

2. magnesium

List 2 harmful substances found in drinking water.

1. chemicals

2. microorganisms

#### How many other molecules could cause disease-ium

#### Following the standards by the EPA

What is the name of the government organization that controls water, air and land quality?

Environmental Protection Agency

The EPA was established in the year 1970.

Why was the EPA established? Established in response to growing public demand for cleaner air, water and land; clean-up current problems and devise plans to prevent future problem

#### Yea the concentration is acceptable – today

#### EPA, come measure the acidity

3 factors that affect water quality

1. pH

2. Hardness

3. Disease-causing organisms

What does pH measure? How acidic or basic the water is

pH is measured on a scale from 0 to 14. Water with a low pH is very acidic.

Water with a high pH is very basic.

#### PH must be neutral, 7 would be beautiful

Pure water has a pH of 7.

Drinking water must have a pH of 6.5 to 8.5 as set by the EPA.

#### The hardness of water, that is tough to clean Magnesium and calcium, clogging my pipes full

Hardness of water is defined as the amount of Ca and Mg present in the water.

What are two drawbacks of hard water? Does not form suds well when mixed with detergent.  
Can form deposits in pipes which causes clogging of the pipes

### **Coliform count more than 5%**

The amount of the bacteria escherichia coli found in water is referred to as the coliform count.

Where are E. coli found? Human and animal waste

What is the EPA coliform count allowed in drinking water? No more than 5% of samples taken in one month can be positive for e.coli

What does a high coliform count indicate about drinking water? There is fecal matter in the water

### **Don't drink it down...well, do you feel real bad yet?**

What disease can result from drinking water with a high coliform count? cholera

### **Hm...there's something in the water Eutrophication from the fertilizer**

Define eutrophication: the process by which nutrients in a lake build up over time, causing an increase in the growth of algae

### **Blocks out the light like a thick sun visor**

How does the use of fertilizers in farming increase the rate of eutrophication? Excess fertilizer runs off into ponds increasing the amount of nutrients in the pond which causes the growth of more algae; can ultimately block out sunlight and kill the pond

### **While point source pipes dumping sludge in the water – oh Causing this pollution**

Define water pollution: the addition of any substance to water that has a negative affect on water or living things that depend on the water

The substance causing the water pollution is called the pollutant

List two types of water pollution.

1. point source
2. nonpoint source

Define point source pollution: pollution from a specific source that can be identified

List two examples of point source pollution.

1. pipe gushing polluted water into a stream
2. chemical sludge dumped into a lake

### **While, government government makes some laws to protect “the shallows” oh we oh oh**

Why does the government make laws to protect the shallows? To protect organisms living in or near the shallows

**Now we filter water from a public lake  
Screens remove the particles, branches and barnacles**

Where is our local drinking water stored before it's treated? Falls Lake

Why does water need to be treated before it is drinkable? To ensure that it is clean and safe to drink; get out dirt and disease causing organisms;

The first step to treating drinking water is first filtration.

What happens in this step? Water is filtered through large screens to remove fish, leaves and trash

**Chemical added that coagulates**

The second step to treating drinking water is coagulation.

Define coagulation: particles in liquid clump together to form blobs

**Sticky sticky flocs, making basins functional**

A chemical, called alum, causes sticky globs called flocs

to form. Particles that stick to the flocs include mud and bacteria

**Little floating globs settle down at the bottom**

**Are they easy to remove – oh yea, we got ‘em**

The third step to treating drinking water is settling basin.

What happens in settling basins? Flocs sink to the bottom so they are easier to remove

**Filter once more using sand and gravel**

The 4<sup>th</sup> step to treating drinking water is Second filtration.

What substances filter the water in the 2<sup>nd</sup> filtration? Sand and gravel

**Would you care to remove all of the algae and bacteria?**

What substances are removed from the water during 2<sup>nd</sup> filtration? Algae, bacteria, some chemicals

**Add the chlorination and then stir with a paddle**

**Kill the microorganisms in this area**

The 5<sup>th</sup> step to treating drinking water is chlorination

Why is chlorine added to drinking water? To kill any remaining microorganisms

**Air through the water to reduce the smell**

**I'll fix it up. Aeration is a-kind a swell**

The 6<sup>th</sup> step to treating drinking water is aeration; forcing air through the water

Why is drinking water aerated? To reduce unpleasant tastes and odors in the water

**Hm...there's something in the water**

Additional substances that may be added to drinking water include

1. sodium or lime to soften hard water

2. fluoride to prevent tooth decay

**Plant roots filter and absorb all the metals and chemicals**

How do plants help cleanup water pollution? Plant roots filter large particles from the water; some plants absorb metals and chemicals

### **While bacteria can eat some oil at the time of a spill**

How are bacteria used to clean up oil spills? Some bacteria 'eat' oil

What is the name of the largest oil spill in history? Exxon Valdez

How much oil was spilled? 10.8 million gallons

### **If you reuse the water Yea and cool the water Reuse the water**

How can dumping hot water into streams harm the environment? Many organisms live in a narrow range of temperatures, so the hot water released by factories can kill many organisms living in the stream

What is a solution to heated water pollution? Cool the water before releasing it into the stream; or cool and reuse the water and don't release it into the stream at all

### **Gosh, I hope they will Human human waste can really cause some disease**

One major source of water pollution is human waste.

### **Cholera, cholera - it's such a follower**

What is cholera? Disease caused by bacteria that live in human waste; results in uncontrolled diarrhea that can result in dehydration to the point of death

How is cholera spread? Consuming water contaminated with human or animal fecal matter

### **Treatment plants, remove all of it please Clean it up, serve it up – give me what I prefer**

Two ways to treat human waste water are

1. sewage treatment plants
2. septic systems

### **Industrial waste, from factories and mines**

A second major source of water pollution is Industrial waste

### **Can cause non point source - where pollution can't be tied**

Define nonpoint source pollution: a widely spread source of pollution that can't be tied to a specific origin

### **Chemicals dumped cause a reaction chain Toxic chemicals, lets be sensible**

One type of industrial waste water pollution is factories dumping toxic chemicals into water

List examples of chemical water pollution and label as point or nonpoint source.

1. gushing pipe polluted with chemicals – point source
2. leaking underground storage containers seeping into soil and groundwater - nonpoint

**Smoke and exhaust result in acid rain**  
**Cars and smoke stacks...emitting the dispensable**

A second type of industrial waste pollution is smoke and exhaust

What does smoke and exhaust pollution cause? Acid rain

Why is acid rain harmful? Causes water in lakes and ponds to become so acidic that organisms die; can harm some trees and building structures

**Heat pollution gets some hot hot water**  
**And heats it up...more than southern Nicaragua**

A third type of industrial waste pollution is heat pollution

What is heat pollution? Factories dump hot water into lakes, rivers, streams

**Hm...there's something in the water**

## **Music Video Extension Activity**

1. Hand out or project the lyrics and read them out loud and discuss their meaning
2. Play the song for the students, multiple times, encouraging them to sing along
3. Use the student lyric guide in place of, or to supplement class notes
4. Allow students class time, in small groups, to “act” out a portion of the song
5. Film the student groups singing/acting out the song