

# WebQuest

A WebQuest is an inquiry-oriented lesson format in which most or all of the information that learners work with comes from the web. WebQuests provide specific websites for students to explore in order to find the information they need to answer a question.

WebQuests are one more resource for teachers to use in getting their students involved in answering realistic questions about the health and local issues of their watershed. A WebQuest is also an opportunity for teachers to include technology as they are integrating regional watershed education into their curriculum.

## **AN EXAMPLE WEBQUEST**

Students might explore the impacts of dams on rivers, specifically dams on the river in their basin.

*The quest may ask students to address the following questions:*

1. Do the benefits of dams outweigh the ecological costs?
2. Do the ecological costs outweigh the benefits?

Students would be split into groups to examine the issue. Topics for investigation might include fish passage, upstream effects, downstream effects, cultural effects, benefits and reasons for the dam.

Each student is responsible for exploring their assigned topic from a given vantage point. A student might assume the role of a "Fish Biologist" and be responsible for researching their topic from that perspective. Additionally one student might examine the issue from the perspective of a farmer or a rancher. WebQuests provide specific websites to explore in order to find information.

Visit *HWI's* website for more examples of WebQuests. If you create your own WebQuest please let us know!