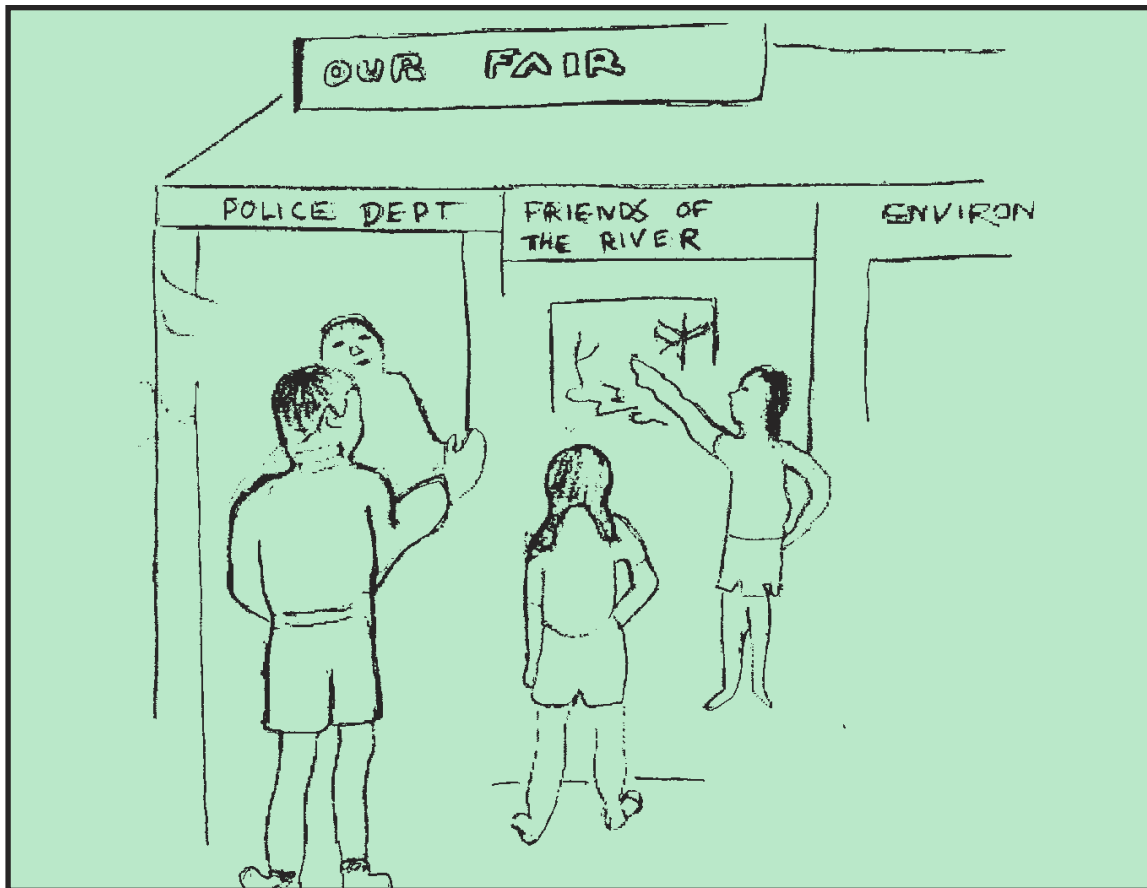


LESSON 10

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY 2050



Students will become members of a hypothetical local agency in the year 2050. Based on knowledge gained, they will design and construct an informative display regarding their agency's concerns and the future for the area.



LESSON OVERVIEW

Students will become members of a hypothetical local agency in the year 2050. Based on knowledge gained, they will design and construct an informative display regarding their agency's concerns and the future for the area.

Subject

Reading, Science,
Social Studies

Standards

Science as Inquiry
History and Nature of
Science
Science in Personal and
Social Perspectives

Objectives

Students will:

1. Evaluate current and historical issues affecting the river and its environment.
2. Hypothesize the future.
3. Design and create an educational display.

Preparation

Make cards or copies of **Master Page 10.3**; Have a supply of cardboard (for displays), research materials (such as magazines) and miscellaneous art supplies (such as construction paper, string, tape and marking pens).

Time

One or more 50-minute sessions.

Vocabulary

agency, annually, bureau, immigrants, monitor

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY 2050

TEACHER BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Currently Santa Cruz County claims to have a population of over 39,150 (1999). With retirees immigrating to Green Valley, Tucson expanding to the south and people moving to Nogales to work with NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement)-related projects and business, the area is rapidly growing. Increased development and population means more employment, education and recreational opportunities. At the same time, those who have chosen rural living away from the city may not be able to keep the slow-paced lifestyle they currently enjoy. This then, poses a dilemma for our youth.

What role will agencies working in the area like the National Park Service (Tumacácori National Historical Park) or Arizona State Parks (Tubac Presidio State Historic Park and Sonoita Creek Natural Area) play in the future?

These are just a few questions we must ask before planning for our future. Encourage students to think about these as well as explore creative ways they can impact the river's future.

Use this information, the descriptions on **Master Page 10.3** and other research material to help your students complete this assignment.

Will Santa Cruz County grow to be as large as Pima County with 803,618 people (1999)?

*What will their future be like?
How much say will they have in that future?*



LESSON 10 - SANTA CRUZ COUNTY 2050

1. Divide the class into six groups. Give each group a different Agency Information Card from *Master Page 10.3*.
2. Explain that each student is to become a member of a hypothetical agency in the year 2050. The goal for their agency or bureau is to create a display depicting life in the Santa Cruz River Valley in the Year 2050. Each display will then be presented as part of a symposium or fair.
3. Using the Teacher Background Information, the descriptions on Master Page 10.3 and the questions below as references, review and discuss with your class the current situation in the Santa Cruz River Valley:

What kind of crops are grown? What kind of problems do local farmers face?

What public services does Santa Cruz County currently offer?

Would you say that people are well educated in the Santa Cruz valley?

If a friend or relative were to visit, where would you take them?

What would you do or see?

*Do you think that the health services in the Santa Cruz valley are sufficient?
How could we improve them?*

*Is the area a safe place?
How could we make it safer?*

*Is there pollution in the valley? What kinds?
What could you do to help?*

Is there a big problem with illegal immigration in the valley? Should we try to stop illegal immigrants from moving through or to the area? How?

Why is the river important? Do you think it is something worth preserving?

4. Working in small groups, assign a specific agency and give each the respective information card from Master Page 10.3. Have them use this and other research material (check the Encounters Box, library, agency contacts, etc.) in order to complete the following assignment:

Assignment

If you were to live in the Santa Cruz River Valley in the year 2050, what would it be like? Use the information on your card as well as other materials from books, magazines, talking with people and your imagination to help you predict the future.

Create a display for your agency. Make posters, activities and things to touch so that others can learn about your agency in the year 2050.

5. Hold a fair in which each group can set up its display. With the whole class listening, go from display to display giving each group time to explain its work to the class.

Enrichment

- Use all of the different displays and information to create a master plan for the future of the Santa Cruz River.
- Contact individual agencies for information and research. Invite a guest speaker from one or more agencies.

LESSON 10 - SANTA CRUZ COUNTY 2050

Border Patrol

1. Many immigrants come to U.S. for a better way of life.
2. Illegal immigration is a major problem, causing lost jobs, lack of service, and trash.
3. Border Patrol arrest an average of 500 illegal immigrants daily.
4. 24-hour temporary and alternative checkpoints are located on I-19 at either Peck Canyon or Agua Linda Rd. and on the road to Patagonia. There is a proposed permanent checkpoint station at Agua Linda Road.

Tumacácori National Historical Park

1. In 1918 the National Park Service took the responsibility of maintaining and preserving this historical place. The ancient ruins of Guevavi and Calabasas were added in 1991 and part of the river was added in 2004.
2. The Mission has an average of 60,000 visitors annually. There are 4,000 students who enjoy, participate, and learn from the programs that are offered each year.
3. The park offers educational programs about the mission, its people and the river.

Friends of the Santa Cruz River

1. The Santa Cruz River is an endangered desert riparian community providing water. 95% of the local wildlife rely on the river.
2. All people living in Nogales, Santa Cruz County and Tucson use the groundwater from the Santa Cruz River.
3. As more people move to the Santa Cruz Valley there may not be enough water.
4. Friends of the Santa Cruz River monitors, educates and advocates for a healthy river.

Developer

1. They provide new housing and shopping centers for many new residents.
2. Housing in Green Valley increases by 400 homes annually.
3. There are many golf courses in the Santa Cruz valley. Water is needed for lawns and golf courses.
4. Some developers work with local groups to help preserve the river.
5. Flooding sometimes requires developers to control the river by cementing its sides.

City Of Nogales

1. The population of Nogales, AZ, is 25,000. Nogales, Sonora, is unofficially about 400,000.
2. NAFTA has caused major growth in business. Many new Mexican-run factories were built along with the construction of transportation warehouses in Rio Rico.
3. Trash and pollution thrown into the Nogales Wash runs into the Santa Cruz River.
4. New roads are built every year to help the new businesses transport merchandise.

Department of Education (School)

1. There are twelve elementary schools, three middle schools, four high schools, one community college, and three private schools in the county. (Nogales has more than 6,000 students.)
2. One out of ten people have a college degree: Six out of ten people have a high school degree.
3. Many agencies, such as Arizona State Parks, Friends of the Santa Cruz River, the Anza Trail Coalition and the National Park Service, offer educational programs.

