

# DOWN THE DRAIN

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## Vocabulary

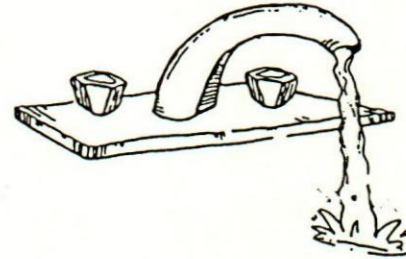
- cohesion
- maze
- water

## OBJECTIVE

To be able to describe how water travels to Great Bay and on to the sea.

## MATERIALS:

- Laminated\* copies of the Down the Drain maze
- pipette or medicine dropper
- small cup of water
- *\*alternately, cover the maze with sheets of wax paper*



## Procedures:

Place a drop of water on the end of the faucet. Push the drop of water with an ink pen, or the top of a pipette from the sink drain through the maze to Great Bay and on to the sea. Ask students to list the variety of places and animals the water drop passes on its way to the sea.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Where does water go from your drain ?
- Where does the water you drink come from?
- Can you own water?
- What types of human activities pollute water?
- What can you do to conserve water

## SPIN-OFF

1. If possible take a trip to a water or sewage treatment plant. discuss how sewage treatment plants differ from a septic tank.
2. Show students a diagram of the water cycle. Discuss how clouds form and where rain goes after it falls to the ground. Leave a pan of water out and ask students to explain where the water level goes as the water level goes down.
3. Discuss the water properties of cohesion and adhesion. Let students play with water drops and explore how the drops cling together. How many drops can you put on a penny ?

This Activity adapted from Sound Ideas: Elementary Project Estuary, by Gail Jones Published by: The North Carolina National Estuarine Research Reserve Program

