



Connecting Communities: Creating Learning Experiences to Reflect Multiple Perspectives about Water in the Four Corners Region

With support from rural communities and their libraries in the Four Corners Region in the Southwestern U.S., **We are Water** creates a place to meet and share stories about water, and explore and learn about water together. Designed for rural, Indigenous, and Latinx communities, stories, community voices and multiple ways of knowing are highlighted and woven throughout the exhibit and programs.

FINDINGS

Community input from library staff, library patrons, and community members showed common interests are water conservation, rights, access, use, availability, quality, and cultural and historical connections.

DESIGNING LEARNING EXPERIENCES ABOUT WATER

- A traveling exhibit
- Recorded water stories and podcasts
- Take & make kits for youth and families
- Stop-Motion photography workshops
- Water in the Western U.S. online course
- Games and water celebrations
- Resources for library staff



Be a Water Detective Take & Make Kit

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Photo: Sangre de Cristo Acequia Association



Darlene Arviso delivers water by truck to more than 250 households across the Navajo Nation. Photo: DigDeep.

PROJECT GOALS

1. Engage visitors with diverse scientific and cultural perspectives on water.
2. Connect visitors with local water topics, stories, and concerns in their communities.
3. Grow rural and tribal library staff capacity to engage diverse audiences in STEAM & multiple ways of knowing about water.
4. Research how visitors see water topics in new ways, and their interest and awareness of multiple ways of knowing about water.

PROJECT TIMELINE



We are Water exhibit at the Carbon Valley Regional Library.

We are Water springs from an exciting collaboration between scientists, Indigenous science educators, learning researchers, informal educators, and library staff.

PARTNERS



@WeAreWaterSW

<https://wearewater.colorado.edu>



NSF awards
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