Use National Geographic FieldScope to Investigate Patterns of Water Availability and Precipitation in the United States

For the complete units with media resources, visit: http://www.nationalgeographic.org/media/water-availability-us/

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This unit, from the Watershed Dynamics curriculum, uses National Geographic FieldScope as a key tool for investigating water availability. The FieldScope map and educational materials can be downloaded from the media carousel above.

The Watershed Dynamics project is a partnership between the Office of STEM Education Partnerships (OSEP) at Northwestern University, the Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE) program, and the Consortium of Universities for the Advancement of Hydrologic Science, Inc. (CUAHSI). Each organization represents a group of people interested in hydrology and science education. Working together, curriculum developers at OSEP, the worldwide network of science educators in GLOBE, and scientists and engineers from CUAHSI have created tools and materials to support student investigations of the watershed.

This unit is designed to teach students about water availability and the impacts
of human activity on the watersheds we live in. Watershed Dynamics promotes the use of authentic scientific data and technology in high school classrooms. Students and teachers learn to use geographic information system (GIS) tools and various data sets to answer questions about the environment.

This project has been used in over 80 classrooms across the country by over 1,600 students.