

Water Briefing Paper Template

Directions: Use this template as a guide for your research.

Briefing Paper Template

Community Member: _____
Community Leader: _____
Scientist: _____
Geographer: _____
Government Rep: _____

Summary of the water issue:

Who are the primary people affected? Are they affected in a positive way or in a negative way?

Who are the secondary people affected? Are they affected in a positive way or in a negative way?

Are there any positive consequences of the issue?

What are the negative consequences of the issue?

What can be done to solve the problem?

Describe the place occupied by and/or surrounding the body of water:

What geologic forces played a role in the origins and history of the body of water?

What kind of changes and challenges has the body of water faced over the past 100 years?

What do you think has happened to water quality over the past 50 years? Why?

What has happened to the water levels in recent decades?

What hypothesis would you put forth to explain what has happened?

Is there historical precedence for this? Why or why not?

If you were a scientist charged with evaluating water and/or air quality in or near the body of water, what do you think you would find?

How would the size/length of the body of water influence your investigations?

How would you investigate the impact of the diminishing quality and quantity of water on commerce, crops, and life/culture in surrounding areas?

What are some important factors to consider before you present your recommendations?

What are your recommendations to the panel?

Work with your group to create an outline for your presentation to the panel: