

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Joanne Toms, (623) 930-3535

Water Wisdom from Fourth Graders

GLENDALE, Ariz. – It's never too early to become water wise. That's why the city of Glendale developed a new youth education program, called Water Watchers. The Glendale Water Conservation Office received a two-year grant from the Bureau of Reclamation to develop a water education program for fourth through sixth grade teachers in Glendale schools.

The program provides teachers with lesson plans and teaching materials as well as guest speakers that visit the classrooms. During the initial pilot program, participating teachers gave the program high marks for addressing the state's education standards and for engaging the students. Debra Tennesen, a fourth grade teacher, wrote "I was very pleased with the projects and information this program offers. It ties in so well with what I am doing with my students in science and also in social studies." The program also received enthusiastic support from parents. More than 68% of the parents assisted their children with a take-home water-efficiency audit. Participating parents received water conserving devices for their homes.

Students that participated in the program recorded their experiences in Water Journals. Examples from student Water Journals, titled Water Wisdom from Fourth Graders, are posted on the city's web site at www.glendaleaz.com.

Fourth, fifth and sixth grade teachers that teach in Glendale can sign up for the 2007-2008 Water Watchers program. Teachers can contact the Glendale Water Conservation Office at 623-930-3535 or jtoms@glendaleaz.com.



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City of Glendale
5850 W. Glendale Ave.
Glendale, AZ 85301
(623) 930-2960
www.glendaleaz.com

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