

Lesson Plan

Valley Crisis Words

Book: *The Climate Crisis in the Ohio Valley*

Series: The Climate Crisis in America

Level: Navigator

Objective

To help students understand the meaning of vocabulary words related to the climate crisis in the Ohio Valley.

Supplies

- Several copies of *The Climate Crisis in the Ohio Valley*
- Valley Crisis Words worksheet (attached)
- Pencils

Before the Activity

Print a copy of the worksheet for each student. Read *The Climate Crisis in the Ohio Valley* out loud as a class, or assign it to students to read on their own.

Activity

Give each student a copy of the worksheet. Explain that the worksheet contains a list of key vocabulary terms and their definitions. Students should use the what they learned from the book to match each word to its definition.

After matching the words, students should answer the question at the bottom of the worksheet. The answer must use at least three of the vocabulary words. Students may refer to the book if they are stuck.

Evaluation

Collect the worksheets at the end of class. Use the attached answer key to give each student 1 point for each correct answer, for up to 11 points total.

Standards

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' reading standards for informational text, grades 4–7 (RI 4.1, 4.4; 5.1, 5.4; 6.4; 7.4).

Valley Crisis Words

A. Match each vocabulary word on the right to its definition on the left. (1 point each)

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| 1. climate change | 1. A sudden rush of water caused by heavy rain. |
| 2. flash flood | 2. Water that falls from clouds to the ground. It can be in the form of rain, hail, or snow. |
| 3. flood stage | 3. A long-term change in Earth's temperature, air pressure, or wind patterns. |
| 4. greenhouse gases | 4. Gases that trap heat in the atmosphere, leading to climate change. |
| 5. lake-effect snow | 5. An instrument that measures the water level of a stream or river. |
| 6. petition | 6. Heavy snow produced when a cold air mass travels over a warmer body of water. |
| 7. precipitation | 7. A formal request to an authority signed by many people. |
| 8. stream gauge | 8. The height at which a body of water will overflow its banks and cause flooding. |

B. Write a paragraph explaining some of the climate-related crises that the Ohio Valley area is facing. Use at least three vocabulary words in your answer. (1 point per vocabulary word)

Valley Crisis Words **ANSWER KEY**

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Answers will vary. Students can mention general or specific problems such as climate change, heat waves, heat island effect, flooding, droughts, etc.