menu of media: flip books

Armed with spiky horns, this small reptile seeks open space teeming with ants. Predators take note: it squirts blood from its eyes when threatened.
California tiger salamander

This elusive amphibian spends much of its life in an underground burrow made by a ground squirrel or other rodent. Adults breed in ponds and then return to their upland burrow habitats.
A river does not just happen; it has a beginning and an end. Its story is written in rich earth, in ice, and in water-carved stone, and its story as the lifeblood of the land is filled with color, music, and thunder.
— Andy Russell, author

Any river is really the summation of the whole valley. To think of it as nothing but water is to ignore the greater part.
— Hal Borland, journalist

Water is the most critical resource issue of our lifetime and our children's lifetime. The health of our waters is the principal measure of how we live on the land.
— Luna Leopold, scientist
What happens in a watershed when rain falls?

Watersheds catch rainfall. Some rain seeps into the ground and some flows into streams, rivers, and lakes.
menu of media: reading rails
Native Land. Native People

People have lived in this region for thousands of years prior to Spanish exploration. In fact, records of human presence date back at least 14,000 years. The wet meadows, oaks, and watercourses of this region sustained the lives and culture of ancestral Ohlone tribal groups. They relied on various plants, birds, small game, freshwater and bay fish and invertebrates, and actively managed the land to increase yields.

During the Mission Era (1776-1833) tribal groups dispersed and Ohlone traditions frayed. Although Mission San Jose de Guadalupe dissolved in 1836, native people did not return to pre-Mission native ways.

The Ohlone, like other tribes, however, saw a religious and cultural revitalization. Chiefs gathered during the Ghost Dance, a renaissance of tribal Indian life that was celebrated in the 1870s and again in the 1890s.
menu of media: touch tables
Multi-touch table storylines:

Morphological changes in steelhead trout

Ranching in the Sunol Valley

Virtual watershed wildlife trading cards

Changes to the Alameda Creek watershed over time

Niles Canyon Railroad

Other possible storylines:

History of Sunol

History of Muwekma Ohlone
menu of media: interpretive panels

The Water Beneath Your Feet

Streams converge in Sunol Valley and flow into a shallow groundwater basin.

Over time, Alamode Creek carved Sunol Valley, depositing gravel and sands on the valley floor and creating Sunol's ample groundwater basin just a few feet below the surface.

The Spring Valley Water Company used the gravel as a filter bed to trap sediment and store water before piping it across the Bay as early as 1890. The company built an underground filter gallery near to the Sunol Water Temple. Beneath that ground, deep holes perforate the walls of the gallery and allow water to collect before passing through the temple. Quisque ullamcorper dolor suscipit, tristique. Maecenas massa in aper lacteet.

Fun Fact

Quenching Thirst in the Bay Area

The Hetch Hetchy Regional Water System moves water from mountains to bay.

The Hetch Hetchy Regional Water System conveys water from the Tuolumne River past the reservoir through aqueducts, tunnels, hydroelectric plants, and other additional dams to the City and County of San Francisco. 157 miles. Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. In vitae dui sed. Sed mollis lorem se aper pulvinus bibendum. Nullam nec ullamcorper tate a semper ne viverra. 157 miles.
low-profile angled mounting
From nose to tail this squirrel is gray.

It rests high above in a nest or a drey.

Acorns and pine nuts are foods it will stash,

Hidden away in a pile or cache.

Do you see me?

Western gray squirrel