



How Can I Help To Protect the BASSETERRE VALLEY AQUIFER?





Hi boys and girls! I am Splishy Splash, a droplet of water from the Basseterre Valley Aquifer.

I have something very important to discuss with you.

It's all about protecting my home, the Basseterre Valley Aquifer.

As you complete the activities in this booklet, I want you to know that by helping me you make sure that you have clean water to drink and use every day.

Can you imagine what our environment would be like without water?

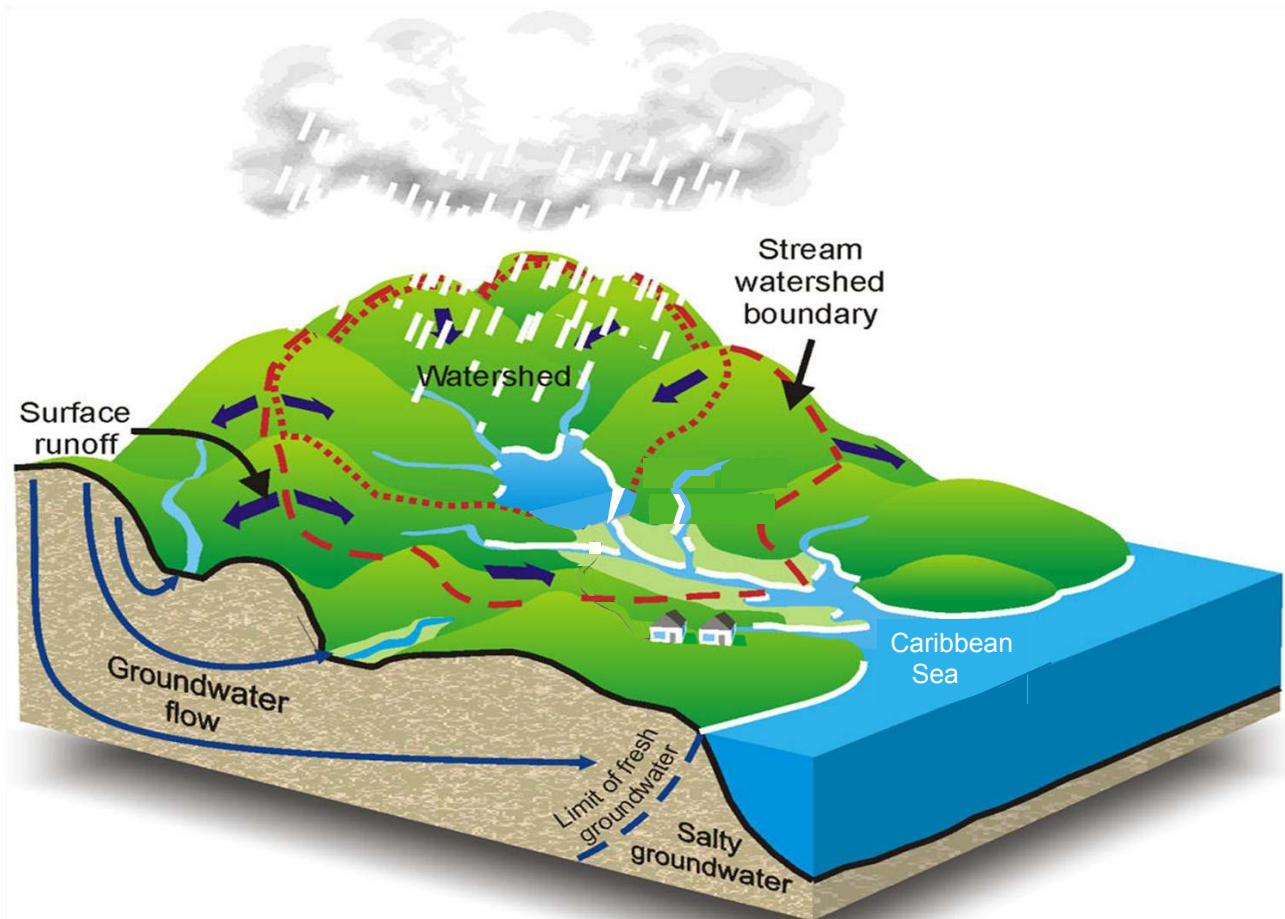
Don't answer that right now — I want you to have fun in the book first and then let me know.

We can all work together to preserve the Basseterre Valley Aquifer.



Splishy Splash Water Saving Tip:
Use a cup to rinse when brushing your teeth.

Diagram of a watershed like the one that supplies water to the Basseterre Valley Aquifer



A watershed like the one above is very important because the rainwater that falls from the clouds and runs into streams and then rivers, end up in the Basseterre Valley Aquifer.

How does the water get underground? Thanks to the roots of plants, worms and insects, rainwater easily drains into the ground and ends up in the Aquifer. Sugar cane was once grown over the location of the Aquifer and their root systems helped rainwater to drain into it. The area is also home to local wildlife including birds, mongooses and butterflies.



Splishy Splash Water Saving Tip:
Turn off the tap or pipe while soaping up during your bath.

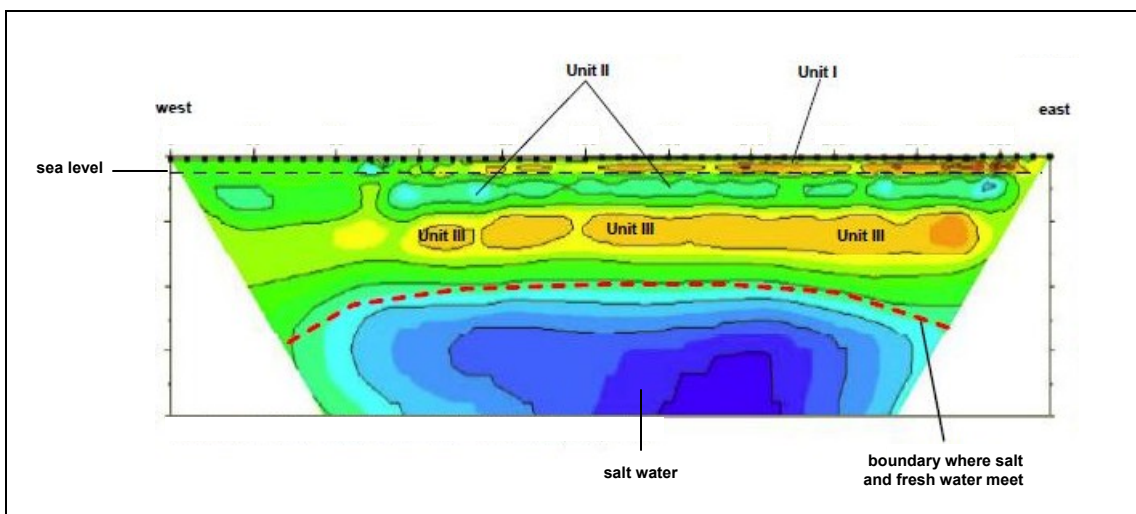


First of all let me explain what is an aquifer!

An aquifer is a layer of permeable rock (rocks with tiny holes) that can store water. It is also possible for the water to move underground in a certain direction. Some people call it a water table.

The Basseterre Valley Aquifer is located in the basin between the Olivees Mountain to the southwest, Canada Hills to the northeast and the Conaree Hills to the east. It is about eight (8) square miles and the water flows south and empties into the Caribbean Sea at Basseterre. The Aquifer provides 60 percent, about 2.5 million gallons of water needed for the daily consumption of residents of Basseterre. There are several aquifers around the island of St. Kitts. Try and find out where some of the other aquifers are located. (Try Water Department or National Trust Document Centre or UNESCO Document Centre.)

Here is a diagram of how the Basseterre Valley Aquifer looks underground.



Splishy Splash Water Saving Tip:

Use a tub for clothes that need to be handwashed instead of running the water.

Please help me to find the Watery Words!



W	M	R	O	W	P	P	L	B	E
A	W	A	T	E	R	G	B	M	L
T	S	R	A	I	N	Y	A	R	B
E	N	H	H	I	L	L	S	S	A
R	O	A	R	P	U	S	I	K	E
T	L	O	U	U	I	S	N	C	M
A	L	S	W	T	B	A	R	O	R
B	A	S	S	E	T	E	R	R	E
L	G	P	U	B	K	I	W	L	P
E	M	O	U	N	T	A	I	N	O

water

shrub

basin

Basseterre

watertable

rocks

hills

gallons

rain

well

supply

permeable

mountain

With the help of your teacher find out the meaning of the words.



Splishy Splash Water Saving Tip:

When mopping use a bucket of water instead of wetting the area with a hose.



Did you know that you play an important part in looking after the Basseterre Valley Aquifer?

The St. Kitts and Nevis Global Environment Facility Integrating Watershed and Coastal Areas Management (GEF IWCAM) project has the important job of finding ways to protect the Basseterre Valley Aquifer.

One suggestion is to have a National Park placed over the Aquifer to protect the area while creating a place for recreation and entertainment for locals and visitors. It also creates a protected habitat for local plants and animals.

In your own words, tell Splishy Splash other ways that you think can be used to protect the Basseterre Valley Aquifer from things like pollution, land not being used properly, taking out too much water, water leaks and the wasting of water.



Splishy Splash Water Saving Tip:
Fill the sink to wash dishes and vegetables instead of running the water.

Please help me answer the Splishy Splash Quiz.



Questions	Answer
1. What is another name that is used locally for aquifer?	
2. Name one of the hills surrounding the Basseterre Valley Aquifer.	
3. What type of rocks can be found in an aquifer?	
4. How many square miles is the Basseterre Valley Aquifer?"	
5. In what direction does the Basseterre Valley Aquifer flow?	

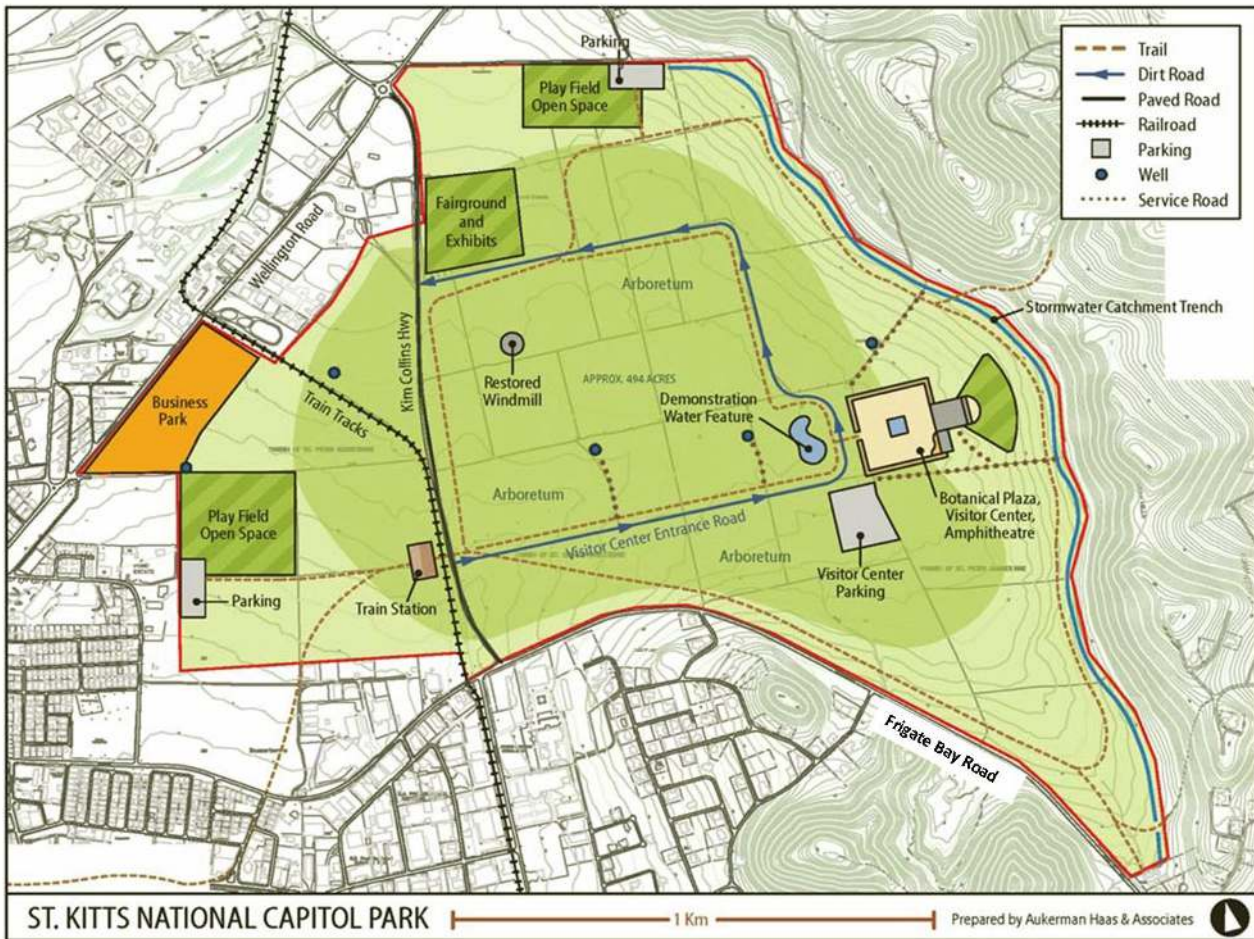
Will you also unscramble the words in the following sentences?

1. There are _____ (tereh) units in the diagram of the underground of the Basseterre Valley Aquifer.
2. The water from the Basseterre Valley Aquifer flows into the _____ (bneCraiba) Sea.
3. We have to protect the Basseterre Valley Aquifer from things like _____ (lpuitoonl).
4. A _____ (Intanoia) Park is to be placed on the site of the Basseterre Valley Aquifer.
5. The Basseterre Valley Aquifer is located in the _____ (isban) between the Olivees Mountain to the southwest, Canada Hills to the northeast and the Conaree Hills to the east.
6. The Aquifer provides 60 percent, about 2.5 million _____ (llganos) of water needed for the daily consumption of residents of Basseterre.









Splishy Splash Water Saving Tip:
Collect rain water or rinse water from vegetables for watering plants.

Map of the proposed Park to be built on the site of the Basseterre Valley Aquifer!



SPLISHY SPLASH WATER FACTS:

-  A person can live longer than a month without food but cannot survive more than a few days without water!
-  In a household, about 45% of water is used for showering!
-  More than 80% of the water used in St. Kitts is used in households!
-  Toilet flushing makes up about 18% of a household's daily use of water!
-  Water comes out of the tap faster than you think. While you wait for hot water to cool, a running tap can fill 42 regular water bottles!
-  About three quarters of the world's surface area is covered by water. Ninety-seven percent of that is salt water.