

UMFA
UTAH MUSEUM OF
FINE ARTS

GUIDE FOR FAMILIES

confluence



c̣onfluence

Explore water in the Salt Lake Valley from different perspectives and think about your connection with it in the *Confluence* exhibition and in art throughout the UMFA. Then get inspired to explore outside the museum.

A **confluence** is the junction of two rivers, but it can also mean the process of merging together. What examples of confluence do you see in this exhibition?

What does water mean to you and your community? Think of all the ways you use water every day. When you get home, draw some of your ideas in the box below.

A large, empty rectangular box defined by a dashed black line, intended for drawing or writing.

Section 1:

Larry Cesspooch, Ute Spiritual Leader

In the gallery:

Larry Cesspooch is a Ute Spiritual leader who shows his people's connection to water. Watch the video, then think about your own connection to water and where it comes from. Discover more: www.throughnativeeyes.net

When you leave:

Talk to your family about water and its importance to you and your traditions. What are some of your family's water stories? What special memories do you have around water? Share these stories with a family member or a friend.

Section 2: *saltfront*

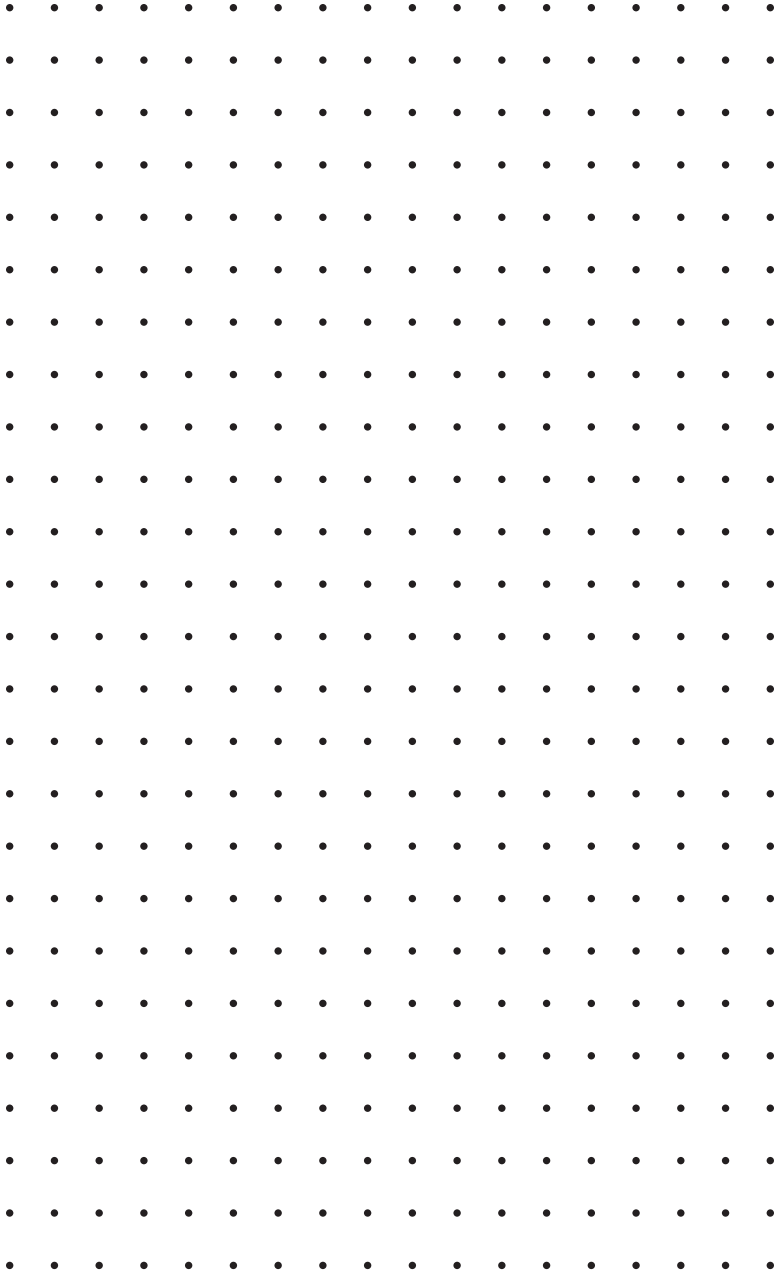
In the gallery:

saltfront literary magazine explores water and pollution through creative writing. Read the labels to discover how pollution affects our rivers before reading some of the poems. How do they make you feel? Discover more: saltfront.org

When you leave:

Why do you think water is a source of inspiration throughout the arts? How does water inspire you? Try going outside and getting inspired by water in nature. What will you write, draw, dance, film, or sing?

Write, sketch, or design some of your ideas on the right:



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Section 3:

Seven Canyons Trust


In the gallery:

Seven Canyons Trust is on a mission to help “daylight” the creeks and rivers in Salt Lake County. Read the labels to discover what daylighting means. Notice the map on the floor that shows the covered parts of the creeks in red. What percentage of each creek would you estimate is covered? Try walking along one of the creeks on the map. Where do they all end up? Discover more: sevencanyonstrust.org

When you leave:

Take a day trip to a river or creek near you and walk along it—or visit the newly daylighted Three Creeks Confluence at 1300 South and 900 West in SLC. Take notes on which parts are covered and which are open. Try drawing a map as you walk. Why do you think the uncovered parts create a healthier river?

Sketch a map on the right:

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
A										
B										
C										
D										
E										
F										
G										
H										
I										
J										
K										
L										
M										
N										
O										

Section 4: Natural History Museum of Utah

In the gallery:

The Natural History Museum of Utah has a program that shows how you can be a citizen scientist. You can practice right here! Can you find at least three species of bugs in this mural? How many birds do you see? Look through the periscope to see outside: if you are lucky, you might see birds in the trees. Discover more: nhmu.utah.edu/citizen-science

Learn about the species displayed in this exhibit:



Oops! One bird in the gallery that usually only nests on the ground got stuck up high! Can you see it?

When you leave:

You can participate in Neighborhood Naturalists outside in your community too! This program sponsored by the Natural History Museum of Utah encourages Citizen Scientists to find and photograph wildlife around Utah. Try predicting the variety of wildlife you might see around your home. Then record your observations to see if you are right.

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Section 5:

Utah Museum of Fine Arts

In the gallery:

All of these artworks show places around Salt Lake Valley and beyond, but read their labels carefully! The names of the rivers and mountains have been changed back to their original Native American names. Why do you think these places were renamed by European Americans who settled in the valley almost 175 years ago? Have you visited any of these places? How would you experience them differently if they had their original names? Discover more: umfa.utah.edu

When you leave:

Visit other galleries in the museum and think about how important water is to every community around the world. Every gallery has artwork related to water, and some are marked with the image below. Think about the questions asked on the labels as you explore the importance of water in every culture.



Section 6:

Great Salt Lake Institute

In the gallery:

Before exploring this area of the gallery, think about something you already knew about Great Salt Lake. Some people think of this lake as dead without life while others think of it as a vibrant ecosystem. Has this exhibition changed your mind or confirmed it? What is something you learned about Great Salt Lake today? Discover more: greatsaltlakeinstitute.org

When you leave:

Take a trip out to Great Salt Lake and spend a day there. Notice how the light, water, and smells change throughout the day. Try recording what you see, smell, feel, and hear during your trip: take pictures, write in a journal, record sounds, or sketch a picture. Why do you think these natural places are so important to preserve?

Record your observations on the right:

Section 7: Framework Arts

In the gallery:

Scan the code below with your phone or visit bit.ly/water-audio to hear stories about water from people in the community. As you listen to these stories, think about water and the senses: what does water taste, smell, feel, sound, and look like? How do the stories help you imagine these senses? Discover more: frameworkarts.org



When you leave:

Think about your own connection with water. What stories can you tell? Try recording your stories or ideas and letting people hear them. Or write your stories down and share them with others.

Think Water Utah is a statewide collaboration and conversation on the critical topic of water presented by Utah Humanities and its partners. The Utah Museum of Fine Arts is honored to participate in this important dialogue with *Confluence*. Throughout 2021, you can explore the essential role of water in Utah's past and future at Smithsonian exhibitions, local exhibitions, and events across the state. What role does water play in your life?

ACME Lab is an innovative space in the Museum's Emma Eccles Jones Education Center dedicated to community engagement and art experimentation. This exhibition and ACME Lab is made possible, in part, by a generous gift from The JoAnne L. Shrontz Family Foundation.

