

# The River Warrior

A Guide for Teachers and Parents



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## SUB-THEMES

Environmental activism

Courage and persistence

Water pollution and industrial waste

Eco-justice and advocacy

Personal responsibility for conservation

Hope and change through action

# Story Discussion Guide

- Understand how industrial waste and human negligence pollute water sources.
- Learn about the ripple effect of pollution on fish, plants, and communities.
- Be introduced to the concept of environmental activism and standing up for nature.
- Recognize that anyone, regardless of age, can spark change.
- Reflect on their own water usage and how to protect this vital resource.

## Lesson plan

The River Warrior offers a real-world lens into environmental activism. Through discussion, activities, and reflection, children learn that clean water is a shared responsibility. The story opens up conversations about waste management, advocacy, and long-term ecological care.

## Learning Outcome

### Before Reading:

- What are some ways we use water every day?
- Have you ever seen a polluted river or lake? What did it look or smell like?
- Where do you think the trash in water comes from?
- Why is clean water important to all living things?

### During Reading :

- What made Prigi upset about the river?
- What kind of waste was being dumped in the Brantas River?
- How did Prigi respond to the pollution? What challenges did he face?

### After Reading:

- Why do you think some people ignored the pollution problem?
- What do you admire most about Prigi's actions?
- How can communities come together to clean water bodies?
- What would you do if your local river was polluted?

## Activities:

- Water Watchers Journal: Students observe and document how water is used (and wasted) in their homes for a week.
- Pollution Simulation: Use a bowl of water with bits of trash to represent a polluted river. Students brainstorm cleanup solutions.
- Poster Campaign: Create posters urging people not to dump garbage into rivers.
- Interview Project: Interview local environmentalists or community workers.
- Class Resolution: Write and sign a 'River Warrior Pledge' to protect water.

## Expected Outcomes

Children will be inspired to observe the world around them, understand that science is about asking questions, and feel encouraged—especially girls—to pursue science if they're passionate about it. They'll also gain greater respect for plants and ecological balance.

## Applicable SDGs

- SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
- SDG 13: Climate Action
- SDG 15: Life on Land
- SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

## SDG Explanation

- SDG 6: The story centers around the urgent need for clean water sources and pollution prevention.
- SDG 13: Highlights environmental degradation caused by human activity and calls for urgent action.
- SDG 15: Connects water health to broader ecosystem survival.
- SDG 12: Teaches responsible waste disposal and industrial accountability.

## **ABOUT ZAMASAMA**

Zamasama is a nonprofit initiative that curates children's stories from diverse cultures and lived experiences around the world. It gives children a window into other communities—and a mirror that affirms their own, helping children recognize the shared humanity that connects us across differences. Through narratives that gently challenge biases and broaden worldviews, Zamasama helps children see difference not as a barrier but as a bridge. Through the power of stories, we sow the seeds of pluralism that can grow into a more harmonious world for all.