

# BREAKING WATER

Stories of a River

**GRADE LEVEL: K- 12 (with adaptations)**



## OBJECTIVE

In this lesson, students will create an accordion book based on Carolina Caycedo's ongoing book project about rivers, the damming of rivers, and their restoration. As students learn about our river (Ohio River) they will use their books to keep a record of important facts and their own thoughts and interpretations of the river. They will also use watercolor paint to create their own river-inspired artwork.

## VOCABULARY

Ecology    Interconnectedness    Ohio River Watershed

## MATERIALS

- Paper/watercolor paper 5 X15"
- Water colors
- pencil

## BEFORE HAND

- Gather materials. Introduce students to *Breaking Water* and Carolina Caycedo's work through CAC's [teacher resources](#) such as educator guides, virtual tour, and the resources below.

## PROCEDURES

- Part A:
  - Assign students to take a look at Caycedo's work through <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cf9A6yD-0xl>. As well as beginning to learn about the Ohio River through <https://ohioriverfdn.org/ohio-river/>.
  - Have students write about what they learned from each source of information. How does the information about the Ohio River similar or different to the rivers Caycedo is looking at?
  - After looking at this information ask the following questions:
    - How do you connect to the river? Who is the river important to?
    - Why do you think the river and the river's health are important? How can we keep the river healthy?
- Part B:
  - On a 5" x 15" sheet of paper, ask students to use watercolor to create abstract images of the river. Designs can cover both the front and back of the paper.
  - Once dry, students will use a pencil to write about what they have learned about the Ohio River, such as their answers to the questions above and interesting facts to support their answers.
- Part C:
  - When finished students will then fold their paper back and forth twice to create an accordion style book.

## RESOURCES

Carolina Caycedo | trust each other

Carolina Caycedo: From the Bottom of the River | MCA Chicago Exhibition Tour - YouTube

<https://vimeo.com/512786459>