

# Walk Through Time: Water in the Four Corners Region Virtual Photo Gallery

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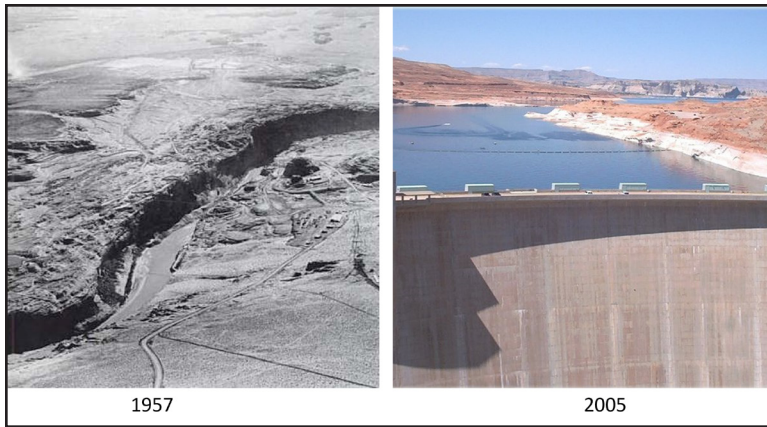
## Activity Guide



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Credit: HistoryPin, Wiki Commons

## Overview

Libraries virtually display historical photographs of the community that relate to water and compare them with contemporary photos of the same areas. While viewing the photos, patrons engage with probing questions, online chats, and activities to consider how water has changed the community over time. The gallery can be displayed on the library's social media accounts and can include weather reports, letters, photos, illustrations, and recorded personal reflections (both audio and video) from patrons of all ages in the community.

## Activity Time

Long duration (days to months)

## Intended Audience

**Families** or other mixed-age groups, including children as young as 6 years old;

## Type of Program

- Facilitated hands-on experience
- Station, presented in combination with related activities
- Passive program (if instructions are provided at the start of the course)**
- Demonstration by facilitator

This community engagement program can be offered before, during or after hosting the *We Are Water* exhibit and may span two or more months.

## What's The Point?

- The presence or scarcity of water impacts the landscape of a community – environmentally, socially, and economically.
- The community's historical artifacts, such as news articles, photos, and illustrations, can be used to record local changes through time.
- If the materials are archived, they serve as a legacy of the community's contributions and explorations.

# Materials

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## Program Materials:

- Historical and contemporary photos relating to water from the local area.
  - Library's archives;
  - Historical societies; and/or
  - Open source resources, such as:
    - [Historypin](#)
    - [Wikimedia Commons](#)
    - [NASA's Images of Change](#)
- A location, perhaps at the reference desk or curbside, where patrons submit materials to the library.
- A digital location, such as a website, social media page, or email address, where patrons can submit their own digital photos and where the virtual gallery can be displayed.
- Access to a high-resolution scanner. The app, [CamScanner](#), may be downloaded onto a mobile device if your library does not have access to a scanner.
- High-resolution color printer.

# Set-Up

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## Step 1: Gather Photographs and Artifacts

Search your library's archived photographs of areas within your community; reach out to local historical societies, or explore online open source resources on [historypin.org](http://historypin.org), [Wikimedia Commons](https://commons.wikimedia.org/), or [NASA's Images of Change](https://images.nasa.gov/) to search for photographs from your area in the four corners region.

Invite the community to email or submit photographs (and artifacts such as letters or newspaper clippings, if desired) to the library's email address or drop-off location. Include a disclaimer about how these photographs will be shared with the public and that by submitting, the owner gives permission to share according to the disclaimer.

**Facilitator's Note:** Provide the invitation in both Spanish and English, and in other local languages if possible, such as Navajo/Diné.

## Step 2: Organize and Prepare Submissions

Scan photographs and other artifacts onto a computer to create high resolution images to post in your virtual gallery.

Each post may include one or two photographs to compare historical images with contemporary photos. Be sure to include the date, location, and credit for each photo, and consider featuring a chat prompt (see below for examples).

## Step 3: Create Virtual Gallery

Choose a platform for sharing your photos. This could be your library's website or social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, or Flickr, or a free collection on [historypin.org](http://historypin.org). You can post all the photos as a gallery or showcase a "Photo of the Week."

Be sure to tag @WeAreWaterSW in your posts!

# Activity Extensions

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## Chat Prompts:

- What does water mean to you and your community?
- Have you visited this place before? Share a picture or a memory!
- How important are dams/mines to our community? What are some positive and negative effects they have?
- What happens up stream of the dam? What happens downstream?
- What impacts does this structure have on the environment?
- In what ways do people use rivers?
- What is your favorite activity to do in a lake or river?
- How might building a dam or water treatment plant affect a river?
- A uranium mining “boom” occurred in the four corners region during the 1950s. Over 1,000 abandoned mines are now located on Navajo land. How might these impact the local water supply?

## Activity Prompts:

- Scavenger Hunt Prompts:
  - Do you recognize this location? Snap a photo of what it looks like today and submit it to *[library staff person]* at *[email address or website]*
  - Does this building still exist? Find the location and submit a photo to xxx

**Optional:** Gamify the scavenger hunt by awarding a point for each location. If patrons score at least 10 points and submit photos, they may collect a prize! Consider offering hints in the prompts.

## Extension:

Consider hosting a “Virtual Gallery Stroll” where you invite those who submitted photos as guest speakers on a virtual program. Create a slideshow of the images and facilitate discussions using the chat prompts above.