

Water fair flows with water saving wisdom

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By Kelsey Keener

kelsey@ironcountytoday.com

The Central Iron County Water Conservancy District and Utah State University Extension partnered to put on the sixth annual Water Fair for Iron County fourth graders last week.

The fair consists of several different stations focused on conserving water, the water cycle and where Iron County's water comes from.

The Utah Division of Water Rights provided a Water Rights station; a Water Jeopardy game was hosted by the CICWCD; Source Protection was covered by the Rural Water Association of Utah; USU Extension discussed Clouds and the Wonders of Water; The US Forest Service offered envirosapes, which discussed how pollutants affect the water supply; and the USU Extension Master Gardeners program covered the importance of plants.

Iron County elementary students learn about the importance of chemistry between the elements and the earth during the annual water fair. From fire and electricity, to holding a cloud and watching how quickly pollutants can contaminate the water table. Photos by Corey Baumgartner

Brandon Wiggins, an assistant professor of physics at Southern Utah University, also performed a "magic of water" science show for the students.

According to Utah State curriculum, students begin to learn about water in fourth grade and the Water Fair is intended to compliment what they learn in class.

Horticulture and Water-Wise Landscape educator for USU Extension Candice Schaible said the fair provides a unique way for students to learn about water.

"We get a lot of comments from teachers that things like this—like the enviroscape table—those are things that they couldn't bring into the classroom," she said. "They can't do that in their classrooms so it's nice to be able to go somewhere for half a day and kind of experience all of it. I think it takes what they learn in the classroom and presents it a little differently so it sticks better".