

Introduction

Harborside Academy in Kenosha, Wisconsin, uses the EL Education Model. EL Education schools combine rigorous academic content and real world projects-learning expeditions-with active learning and community service. Learning expeditions are purposeful, engaging, in-depth investigations of compelling topics such as the impact of pollution on water life or the causes and effects of water shortages around the world.

The sixth grade class at Harborside Academy focused on “Water is Life”. Water is the single most important resource to civilization then and now. Within Science class, the students observed close analytical reading to explore these ideas and others as presented in the article, “Water is Life” by Barbara Kingsolver. To understand the hydrosphere and hydrological cycle, students studied different models that scientists use to understand and communicate about these dynamic processes. Students are discussing how scientists use models and how models can change to reflect system dynamics, deeper understanding, and the needs of the audience.

In Humanities, students looked at the first major civilization, Mesopotamia, and identified the role water played in its development. Students compared ancient Mesopotamia to current day Iraq, and have identified how the land went from a lush farmland to a barren desert.

While comparing the rivers then and now, the students investigated the issues of the other ancient river valley civilizations and the causes for their lack of water and depletion. After investigating research and data, students have created this collection of poems to inform others of the current water issues and causes surrounding the ancient river valleys and other areas of our world, as well as the importance of water to all mankind.

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*In this imaginative collection of poems, the
authors create colorful experiences of
delicacy and wonder.*

*They are fearless and leave nothing
unexplored, no words wasted.*

Centralized Civilization

By: Harborside Academy 6th Grade Class

Early River Valley Baring

Centralized civilization began to crystallize

Dependable Distinguished Daring

Along the rivers materialized, towns stabilize

Centralized civilization began to crystallize

Inspired and Institutional yet Creative

Dependent on the rivers, towns stabilize

Invention of Irrigation was Innovative

Inspired Institutional yet Creative

Dependable Flow and Supply

Invention of Irrigation was Innovative

Transported back in time, no one would deny

Dependable flow and supply

Dependable Distinguished Daring

Transported back in time, no one would deny

Early River Valley Baring

The Indus

Ancient River of Pakistan

By: Ethan Schmidt

*Pakistan's economy uses tons of water
Downtown provinces are already being affected
Amounts of sugar, textiles and wheat starts to totter
Raging rivers become puddles redirected*

*Downtown provinces are already being affected
Competition between farmers becomes in perspective
Raging rivers become puddles redirected
Farmers are now forced to move to cities expected*

*Competition between fisherman becomes in perspective
Then causes a food and energy crisis in Pakistan
Farmers forced to move to cities expected
Cities growth and lack of resources destroy masterplan*

*Then causes a food and energy crisis in Pakistan
Amounts of sugar, textiles and wheat ends their totter
Cities growth and lack of resources destroys masterplan
Pakistan's economy used tons of water*

Feeling Sorrow

By: Joshua Cerminara

*Water shortages causing food and energy crisis
People dying from drinking from the Indus
Feel like I'm in the darkness
People will be feeling sorrow when I don't exist*

*People dying from drinking from the Indus
It worries me that I won't exist
I feel like I can't persist
People will be feeling sorrow when I don't exist*

*It worries me that I won't persist
Lack of water distinct
People will be feeling sorrow when I don't exist
Rarest species Indus River Dolphin almost extinct*

*Lack of water distinct
Feel like I'm in the darkness
Rarest species Indus River Dolphin almost extinct
Water shortages causing food and energy crisis*

Indian Indus Islands

By: E. T. Rawn

*Indian Indus Islands, Dried by Dams
Low Levels in Punjab and Pakistan provide Political Problems
Glaciers grow Guara and Gharials, in the Ganges, they swam
Water, Writing, Wheat; Wetland Environments*

*Low Levels in Punjab and Pakistan provide Political Problems
Downstream from Delhi, Dolphins in the Delta Dive
Water, Writing, Wheat; Wetland Environments
Ancient Agriculture was Abundant, Alive*

*Downstream from Delhi, Dolphins in the Delta Dive
Political Peace is Fragile as Ever
Ancient Agriculture was Abundant, Alive
Fed by the Ravi River*

*Political Peace is Fragile as Ever
Glaciers grow Guara and Gharials, in the Ganges, they swam
Fed by the Ravi River
Indian Indus Islands, Dried by Dams*

Water Supply Plummet

By: Sam Erickson

*India and Pakistan use the Indus water
Populations in both countries grew and the water supply plummeted
Two countries fighting over this shrinking river
Once raging rivers, now there's just streams and puddles*

*Populations in both countries grew and the water supply plummeted
Innovative invention of irrigation was used
Once raging rivers now there's just streams and puddles
These troubles are embedded in their minds fused*

*Innovative invention of irrigation was used
One of the longest running rivers in the world
These troubles are embedded in their minds fused
The river was raped and whirled*

*One of the longest running rivers in the world
Two countries fighting over this shrinking river
The river was raped and whirled
India and Pakistan use the Indus water*

The Interesting Indus

By: Marcella Medina

Fragile water effects political tensions and lengthened

Water shortages trigger crisis

Indus becomes economically orphaned

Ruining of two ancient rivers with there prices

Water shortages trigger crisis

The parameter of major concerns

Ruining of two ancient rivers with there prices

Industrial water waste discharges

The parameter of major concern changes

Water through hydroelectric power schemes

Industrial waste water remains

Troubling ,Islamabad's diversions of water upstream

Water through hydroelectric power schemes

Indus becomes economically orphaned

Troubling, Islamabad's diversions of water upstream

Fragile water effects political tensions and lengthened

Glaciers Grow and Raise

By: Kaden Marshman

*Glaciers grow and raise the Indus
Himalayas help fill the river with white glacier water
People who drink watchet water, death rains from within us
Chemicals fuel the rivers slaughter*

*Himalayas help fill the rivers with white glacier water
Flowing from Kashmir to Karachi and the North Arabian sea
Chemicals fuel the rivers slaughter
The river slowly dying from the constant flow of debris*

*Flowing from Kashmir to Karachi and the North Arabian Sea
Demand of water for crops and consumption
The river slowly dying from the constant flow of debris
Glacier melt causing destruction*

*Demand of water for crops and consumption
People who drink from watchet water, death rains from within us
Glacier melt causing destruction
Glaciers grow and raise the Indus*

Indus River Valley

By: WeathyrAnn Tucker

*Rich Indus river valley no more
Intense flooding, leading to evacuations
Major industries water to store
Felt under strain from booming populations*

*Intense flooding, leading to evacuations
Water storage tanks that freeze
Felt under strain from booming populations
Dry diverting the bank flow of water to the sea*

*Water storage tanks that freeze
Streams, puddles, not much else commands
Dry diverting the bank flow of water to the sea
Means more demonic demands*

*Streams, puddles, not much else commands
Main major industries water to store
Means more demonic demands
Rich Indus river valley no more*

Dwindling River

By: Emma Giese

The dwindling Indus River

Tremendous amount of warm water blends

Water shortages have triggered shivers

90 percent its agriculture depends

Tremendous amount of warm water blends

Perfect peace that holds the native nation

90 percent its agriculture depends

Major industries use tons of water for creation

Perfect peace that holds the native nation

Public water is stolen then pasted

Major industries use tons of water for creation

Water is wasted

Public water is stolen then pasted

Water shortages have triggered shivers

Water is wasted

The dwindling Indus River

The Nile

Gracious Gift

By: Alison Kirby

*Gracious gift from the Gods like a dream
Giver of a luxurious life full of hydration
Now many dams upstream
Persistent pressure from a growing population*

*Giver of a luxurious life full of hydration
Trickling through Egypt many miles long
Persistent pressure from a growing population
The Nile's water still flowing strong*

*Trickling through Egypt many miles long
To life I am vital
The Nile's water still flowing strong
Good water is entitled*

*To life I am vital
Now there are many dams upstream
Good water is entitled
Gracious gift from the gods like a dream*

Referred as a God

By: Abby Thomas

*The giver of life
Referred as a god in the stir
Hasten evaporation like a knife
The nourished soil a cure*

*Referred as a god in the stir
Upstream dams trap the river
The nourished soil a cure
Farmers claim it is the giver*

*Upstream dams trap the river
The Nile flows strong through the banks
Farmers claim it is the giver
Arriving at the planks*

*The Nile flows strong through the banks
Hasten evaporation like a knife
Arriving at the planks
The giver of life*

The Worshipped River

By: Halli Kreuser

*Any person who drank from the Nile worshiped water
Revered the Nile as a god
Hastened evaporation, climate sauters
How could the people not savor it now, and give it a
worshipful nod?*

*Revered the Nile as a god
Upstream dams trap the water
How could the people not savor it now and give it a
worshipful nod?
Pressure from the growing population slaughters*

*Upstream dams trap the water
Economic life is not being treated fairly
Pressure from the growing population slaughters
Families having enough water happens rarely*

*Economic life is not being treated fairly
Hastened evaporation, climate sauters
Families having enough water happens rarely
Any person who drank from the Nile worshiped water*

Giver of Life No More

By: Isabella Gardina

A generous gift from God

Giver of lovely life

Now hot, hasten evaporation leaves the driest of sod

Booming with Egypt's economic strife

Giver of lovely life

Africa's Aswan High Dam is a blessing and a curse

Booming with Egypt's economic strife

Persistent pressure a growing population getting worse

Africa's Aswan High Dam is a blessing and a curse

Many miles long

Persistent pressure a growing population getting worse

To my wondrous waters people do wrong

Many miles long

Booming with Egypt's economic strife

To my wondrous waters people do wrong

A generous gift from God

Inspiring Civilization

By: Connor Murphy

The Nile, a gift

Inspiring a civilization

Garbage dumped just drifts

Egyptians developing a foundation

Inspiring a civilization

Egypt had common floods

Egyptians developing a foundation

Every night you hear an explosion or a thud

Egypt had common floods

Egyptians controlled water by using irrigation

Every night you hear an explosion or a thud

It all seems a frustration

Egyptians controlled water by using irrigation

Garbage getting dumped just drifts

It all seems a frustration

The Nile a gift

My Rivers Flow
By: Alayna Tetrick

Surplus, supply, streams, the Indus is the giver of these
Drops filled the river, fresh water it will deliver
Snow softens slowly down the mountain into it with ease
Fights now form for the water my river

Drops fill the river fresh water it will deliver
Through valleys I flow through South Asia I go
Fights now form for the water my river
India cuts my river flow

Through valleys I flow through South Asia I go
Competition for my water has happened before
India cuts my rivers flow
From now on conflict will become more

Competition for my water has happened before
Snow softens slowly down the mountain into me with ease
From now on conflict will become more
Surplus, supply, streams, the Indus is the giver of these

Giver of Abundance

By: Kyleigh Risch

*Nile giver of abundance
Remains critical to the economic life
Flooding led to another dependence
Flooded and receded to its original strife*

*Nile remains critical to the economic life
The season rise and fall of the Nile were strongest
Flooded and receded to its original strife
Length is the second longest*

*The season rise and fall of the Nile were strongest
In Egypt fertile green valley across the rainless
Length is the second longest
One of the world's greatest not painless*

*In Egypt fertile green valley across the rainless
Flooding led to another dependence
One of the world's greatest not painless
Nile giver of abundance*

The Giver and the Taker of Life

By: Melina Flores

*Egyptian was any person who drank from the Nile
Remarkable river overflowing its bank
Seasonal rise and fall for miles
Fundamental flowering of Ancient Egypt sank*

*Remarkable river overflowing its bank
Intensified by population almost gone
Fundamental flowering of Ancient Egypt sank
Warm weather hastens evaporation at dim dawn*

*Intensified by population almost gone
With nowhere to go rain becomes waste
Warm weather hastens evaporation at dim dawn
Water seeping slowly in the earth and escapes*

*With nowhere to go rain becomes waste
Seasonal rivers rise and fall for miles
Water seeping slowly in the earth and escapes
Egyptian was any person who drank from the Nile*

The Two Banks

By: Bryanah Kuczenski

The giver of life

*An egyptian was any person who drinks from the Nile
Called their land the two Banks that has a water rife
Water and silt renewed the soil for many miles*

*An egyptian was any person who drinks from the Nile
Excellent for cultivation of crops for life
Water and silt renewed the soil for many miles
Called their land the two banks of water rife*

*Excellent for cultivation of crops for life
The sources of the Nile are in areas of heavy rain
Water and silt renewed the soil for many miles
Another development and water gain*

*The sources of the Nile are in areas of heavy rain
Called their land the two banks that has a water rife
Water and silt renewed the soil for many miles
The giver of life*

Critical to Economic Life

By: Madison Wood

*The Nile river the giver of life fast
Overflowing its banks once
Seasonal rise and fall that did not last
Critical to the economic egyptian life*

*Overflowing its banks once
Aswan high dam prevents natural flood dictation
Critical to the economic life of egypt
Persistent pressure from a growing population*

*Aswan high dam prevents natural flood dictation
There water source so fragile
Persistent pressure from a growing population
The rivers unravel*

*There water source is fragile
Seasonal rise and fall of the Nile
The river unravels
The Nile river is the giver of life*

The Water God

By: Ana Blasi

*Floods washed away the boundaries aligned
They called their river the two banks
Critical to economic life of Egypt's kind
The Nile river is the giver of life on its banks*

*They called their land the two banks
Egyptians prized and venerated the Nile river
The Nile river is the giver of life on its banks
There is no Egypt without the Nile giver*

*Egyptians prized and venerated the Nile river
Flooding of the Nile also led to another development
There is no Egypt without the Nile giver
Redoing the boundaries accurately sent*

*Flooding of the Nile also led to another development
Critical to the economic life of Egypt's kind
Redoing the boundaries accurately sent
Floods washed away the boundaries aligned*

Yellow

Disappearing Fast

By: Claire Anderson

*Always thought this was the most beautiful place under
heaven.*

*Months pass and yet not a drop of rain has fallen last
Only clouds come from sand storms lashing across the desert
This earthly paradise disappearing fast*

*Months pass and yet not a drop of rain has fallen
I'm slowly dying this can not last
I keep calling
This earthly paradise disappearing fast*

*I'm slowly dying this can not last
Thousands of chemicals are poisoning my soul
This earthly paradise disappearing fast
I am only coal*

*Thousands of chemicals are poisoning my soul
Only clouds come from sand storms lashing across the desert
This earthly paradise disappearing fast
Always thought this was the most beautiful place under heaven*

The Blood of the Yellow

By: Elizabeth Nelson

*The blood waste made fear
Made horror in children's eyes
This will not be the last tear
As many children will cry*

*Made horror in children's eyes
Of what water remains deprevisation
This will not be the last tear
As the water is too toxic to use irrigation*

*Of what water remains deprevisation
But I must know
As the water is too toxic to use irrigation
This is a horrifying flow*

*But I must know
This will not be the last tear
This is a horrifying flow
The blood waste made fear*

This is no Mirage

By: Hannah Wade

Mother River's sabotage

Slowly being poisoned by a type

This is no mirage

Chemical waste gushing by a drainage pipe

Slowly being poisoned by a type

Suffered in silence

Chemical waste gushing from a drainage pipe

This earthy paradise is disappearing in violence

Suffered in silence

Water in china has always been precious

This earthy paradise is disappearing in violence

How have we learned to be so malicious

Water in china has always been precious

This is no mirage

How have we learned to be so malicious

Mother River's sabotage

Poisoned Waters

By: Samuel Rodriguez

*Can China save the Yellow
Mother river is dying endangered
Water which remains being poisoned though
Water too toxic shaking with anger*

*Water too toxic shaking with anger
Yellow gets pulled into pollution
Mother river is dying endangered
That is the dirty conclusion*

*Yellow gets pulled into pollution
Mother of waters die by man
That is the dirty conclusion
Now beloved river looks like sand*

*Mother of waters die by man
Water which remains being poisoned though
Now beloved river looks like sand
Can China save the Yellow*

Huang He

By: Elizabeth Castel

*The yellow river flows and flows killing people as it goes
Blood-red chemicals gush from the drain pipes and thumped
Slowly turning to poison as it flows
More than a million tons of wastewater dumped*

*Blood-red chemicals gush from the drain pipes and thumped
After drinking the animals are dying with in hours
More than a million tons of wastewater dumped
To clean the water the government has the power*

*After drinking the animals are dying with in hours
Water too toxic to use for irrigation as it stays steady
To clean the water the government has the power
Water once a source of life has turned deadly*

*Water too toxic to use for irrigation as it stays steady
Slowly turning to poison as it flows
Water once a source of life has turned deadly
The yellow river flows and flows killing people as it goes*

Earthly Peaceful Paradise

By: Kailynne Brown

Earthly peaceful paradise

Mother river

The most beautiful place under heaven arise

Water giver

Mother river

What water remains is being poisoned with nickel

Water giver

Dwindles at its mouth to a lifeless trickle

What water remains is being poisoned with nickel

Blood-red chemical gushing from my drain pipe

Dwindles at its mouth to a lifeless trickle

Now I'm turning a garnish purple stripe

Blood-red chemical gushing from my drain pipe

The most beautiful place under heaven arise

Now I'm turning a garnish purple stripe

Earthly peaceful paradise

The Mother River, China's Giver

By: Catherine Rodriguez

*The Mother River used to be the most
Periodic droughts a hard punch
River sweeping across the northern coast
Not a drop of rain for more than a month*

*Periodic droughts a hard punch
Yellow the "mother river"
Not a drop of rain for more than a month
Yellow the "giver"*

*Yellow "mother river"
Journey across northern china a mystery
Yellow the "giver"
An accident of history*

*Yellow river's journey across northern china a mystery
River sweeping across the northern coast
An accident of history
The Mother River used to be the most*

Beautiful Place Under Heaven

By: Gracie Underwood

*China's economic boom is sucking the yellow river dry
Not a drop of rain has fallen in months
Few waterways capture the soul of a nation's cry
Thought this was the most beautiful place once*

*Not a drop of rain has fallen in months
Huang he they call the yellow river
Thought this was the most beautiful place once
Mother river used to be the giver*

*Huang he they call the yellow river
Water poisoned by pollution
Mother river used to be the giver
To end pollution is the main solution*

*Water poisoned by pollution
Few waterways capture the soul of a nation's cry
To end pollution is the main solution
China's economic boom is sucking the yellow river dry*

Fading Paradise

By: Natalie Matoska

*For months not a drop of rain
This earthly paradise vanishing
Blood-red chemicals gushing from my drain
Spectacular economic booms sucking yellow river dry*

*This earthly paradise vanishing
Grasslands withering away unplaced
Spectacular economic booms sucking yellow river dry
Stained with pollution tainted with waste*

*Grasslands withering away unplaced
The Mother River is dying
Stained with pollution tainted with waste
Crowded, with ill conceived dams piling*

*This Mother River is dying unplaced
Blood-red chemicals gushing from my drain
Stained with pollution tainted with waste
For months not a drop of rain*

The Mother River

By: Sarah Kersten

The Mother River

*Once a lush and irrigated paradise
Economic boom drying up the river
Sewage taints water for fields of rice*

*Once a lush and irrigated paradise
Toxic chemicals lurk in my depths below
Sewage taints water for fields of rice
Economic miracle now an environmental low*

*Toxic chemicals lurk in my depths below
Pollution being reduced is long overdue
Economic miracle now an environmental low
Population accelerates through*

*Pollution being reduced is long overdue
Economic boom drying up the river
Population accelerates through*

The Mother River

The Euphrates

The Core of Civilization

By: Emily Dipper

*Provided sustenance to the surrounding
population*

Euphrates water levels leisurely recede

Core water source, the foundation

Water deficiency soon proceeds

Euphrates water levels leisurely recede

Water crisis resulting in human conflict

Water deficiency soon proceeds

A once forceful flow now restricts

Water crisis resulting in human conflict

Waters my people gradually devour

A once forceful flow now restricts

Powerful waters the people disempower

Waters my people gradually devour

Core water source, the foundation

Powerful waters people disempower

*Provided sustenance to the surrounding
population*

Fallen Euphrates
By: Rowan Tichelaar

Fertile Crescent, agricultures creators
Drying up, a sign of end times
Strangled by the water policies of neighbors
All strata of society feeling effects overtime

Drying up, a sign of end times
Frequently plagued by droughts, Iraqis beg for slivers
All strata of society feeling effects overtime
Seven dams built, blocking the rivers

Frequently plagued by droughts, Iraqis beg for slivers
Final chance for farmers with a thirst for liquid hereafter
Seven dams built blocking the rivers
Conference in Baghdad, officials spoke of disaster

Final chance for farmers with a thirst for liquid hereafter
Strangled by the water policies of neighbors
Conference in Baghdad, officials spoke of disaster
Fertile Crescent, agricultures creators

Birth of Civilization, Life Continuation

By: Zoe Beddigs

*There is no water for life continuation
Pumps dangle over puddles, helpless it seems
A river so crucial to the birth of civilization
Creating bold and beautiful streams*

*Pumps dangle over puddles, helpless it seems
Influencing cities to grow into a nation
Creating bold and beautiful streams
Forming the first civilization*

*Influencing cities to grow into a nation
Dams choke the water of Iraq's neighbors
Forming the first civilization
So hot there is no vapor*

Dams choke the water of Iraq's neighbors

*A river so crucial to the birth of civilization
So hot there is no vapor
There is no water for life continuation*

A River So Crucial

By: John Alia

*The land between two rivers
Crucial to the birth of civilization
The drought, ruining the ancient life givers
The same river won the heart of a nation*

*Crucial to the birth of civilization
Without the river people can't tend to their needs
The same river won the heart of a nation
Now the water level slowly recede.*

*Without this water we can't tend to their needs
Without water well would be dead
Now the water level slowly recede
The river help the people feed*

Without the water we will be dead

*The drought, ruining the ancient giver
The river help the people feed
The land between the river*

River of Life

By: Alexandra Rothwell

*River so crucial to the birth of civilization
Along the river, crops turn into decaying soil
A rivers shrinking shortage of hydration
Strangled by the wasteful water policies, Iraq spoils*

*Along the river, crops turn into decaying soil
“Our agriculture is going to die”
Strangled by the wasteful water policies, Iraq spoils
“Now it's just a just a dry desert,” they cry*

*“Our agriculture is going to die”
Seven dams on the euphrates take away Iraq's amenity
“Now it's just a just a dry desert,” they cry
A crisis that threatens Iraq's identity*

*Seven dams on the euphrates take away Iraq's amenity
A rivers shrinking shortage of hydration
A crisis that threatens Iraq's identity*

River so crucial to the birth of civilization

The River of Civilization

By: Charles Skendziel

*The shrinking Euphrates, a river that's affected our lives so greatly
Canals have dwindled to shallow streams, boats sit on dry land
Crisis that threatens Iraq's identity
Drought chokes the Euphrates lush farmland turns to sand*

*Canals have dwindled to shallow streams, boats sit on dry land
Water poisoned by pollution, plantlife, population soaring
Drought chokes the Euphrates lush farmland turns to sand
Tons of water has been lost, into the river sewage pouring*

*Water poisoned by pollution, plantlife, population soaring
The land from lush to arid
Tons of water has been lost, into the rivers sewage pouring
Nothing but desert, dry and vivid*

*The land from lush to arid
Crisis that threatens Iraq's identity
Nothing but desert, dry and vivid
The shrinking Euphrates, a river that's affected our lives so greatly*

The Once Good, Now Polluted

By: Steven Clay

*A land bordered by two rivers
Civilization that highly developed its own
The river of crop giver
Once reliable now sinking to ground stones*

*A Civilization that highly developed its own
An over abundance of water and crops
Once reliable now sinking to ground stones
Civilization that starts to drop*

*An overabundance of water and crops
Gave birth to the agriculture
A civilization that starts to drop
Civilization on an adventure*

*Gave birth to agriculture
The river of crop giver*

*Civilization on an adventure
A land bordered by two rivers*

Flow of the River

By: Jon Turner

*Euphrates pure, wet, fresh water
1740 miles of an overabundance of river
The long river is wastewater
The river is there great giver*

*1740 miles of an overabundance of river
Euphrates good for farming crops
The river was there great giver
Most farming drops*

*Euphrates good for farming crops
Hot dry desert need of a river
Most farming drops
The clear crisp water would send quivers*

Hot dry desert need of river

*The long river is wastewater
The clear crisp water would send quivers
Euphrates pure, wet, fresh water*

The River That Once Lived

By: Lily Bourdeau

*Strangled by the water policies
Shrinking of the Euphrates
A two year drought caused by enemies
A river so crucial to the birth of civilization empties*

*Shrinking of the Euphrates
War has caused this situation
A river so crucial to the birth of civilization empties
Less and less precipitation*

*War has caused this situation
There used to be water everywhere
Less and less precipitation
The Euphrates was a blessing to the people who care*

*There used to be water everywhere
A two year drought caused by enemies
The Euphrates was a blessing to the people who care*

Strangled by the water policies

The Tigris

Tigris Past and Present

By: Victor Vargas

*Once full the Tigris river
Surplus of flowing freshwater
Now parched, no longer a giver
Iraq's territorial water*

*Surplus of flowing freshwater
Now poisoned from pollution
Iraq's territorial water
From war to pollution, no hope of solution*

*Water now poisoned from pollution
Iraq's territorial water
From war to pollution, no hope of solution
Bullets, bodies and gunpowder from cold war*

*Iraq's territorial water
River now parched, no longer a giver
Bullets, bodies and gunpowder from cold war
Once full the Tigris river*

The Ancient Tigris

By: Ben Payette

*Previous lush land held to be the cradle of civilization
Tigris gave a raging river flow developing a home
Birthplace of humanity's greatest creations
An abundance of resources becoming a beautiful biome*

*Tigris gave a raging river flow developing a home
Now starting to dry
An abundance of resources becoming a beautiful biome
Now polluted water makes people die*

*Now starting to dry
Starved of water and all creation
Now polluted water makes people die
Drought causing issue for this once great nation*

*Those same rivers starved of water and all creation
Now polluted water makes people die
Drought causing issue for this once great nation
Previous lush land held to be the cradle of civilization*

The Great Tigris

By: Brendan M. Freitag

*Lush land lying between two rivers
Perfect plains of south Baghdad
Vast cracked band of barren dead deserts quiver
Now mere creek so sad*

*Perfect plains of south Baghdad
Plains profusely parched
Now mere creek so sad
Water no more sewage now starved*

*Plains profusely parched
Not a drop of rain from the sky
Water no more due to sewage now starved
Gas poisons my terrain which they relied*

*Not a drop of rain from the sky
Vast band of barren dead deserts quiver
Gas poisons my terrain once they relied
Lush land lying between two rivers*

The Great Water Supply: Tigris

By: Kailey Mazur

*Fed life to the ancient lush lands Mesopotamia
Irrigation invented creating a surplus of crops
Dams now built, blocking by neighbouring states in Asia
Land of Iraq now profusely parched, needing raindrops*

*Irrigation invented creating a surplus of crops
Tigris, most important feature
Land of Iraq now profusely parched, needing raindrops
Water usage from war lingers*

*Tigris, most important feature
For water is extremely essential to life
Water usage from war lingers
Innocent Iraqis strife*

*For water is essential to life
Dams now built, blocking by neighbouring states in Asia
Innocent Iraqis strife
Fed life to ancient lush lands Mesopotamia*

Created Life

By: William Gilbert

Tigris created life to the Cradle of Civilization

Once gave people ease

It's water helped start a nation

Now produces disease

Once gave people ease

Several dams being built by decree

Now produces disease

Wishing it could be clean, abundant, and free

Several dams being built by decree

Used to produce life and grow

Wishing it could be clean, abundant, and free

Now it barely flows

Used to produce life and grow

It's water helped start a nation

Now it barely flows

Tigris created life to the Cradle of Civilization

The Choking Water Policies

By: Allison Kolimaga

Strangled by water policies

A river so crucial to the birth of civilization

Canals have dwindled into pieces

Decimated farms along its well known nation

A river so crucial to the birth of civilization

The drought is widespread

Decimated farms along its well known nation

It's a crisis that tears Iraq into shreds

The drought is widespread

Our agriculture is going down wickedly in wealth

It's a crisis that tears Iraq into shreds

With few showing signs of increasing health

Our agriculture is going down wickedly in wealth

Canals have dwindled into many pieces

With few showing signs of increasing health

Strangled by water policies

River of Civilization

By: Ellie Pahlman

*River fed life to historic nation
Water so crucial though
River of cradled civilization losing water
Dams drastically reducing flow*

*Water so crucial though
Connected to the Euphrates the canals dwindle to streams
Dams drastically reducing flow
Marshland along the lower drained causing empty dreams*

*Connected to the Euphrates the canals dwindle to streams
Devastating shortages sweeping the land
Marshland along the lower drained causing empty dreams
Beautiful plains, now dry desert sand*

*Devastating shortages sweeping the land
River of cradled civilization losing water
Beautiful plains, now dry desert sand
River fed life to historic nation*

Roaring Rapid Within Iraq

By: Payton Strojinc

*Was home to an economic boom
Bordered the fertile crescent
The Euphrates and I use to zoom
I was a water present*

*Bordered the fertile crescent
Now polluted over populated
I was a water present
Political rules over regulated*

*Now polluted over populated
Drying up and dying out
Political rules over regulated
I have a long water route*

*Drying up and dying out
The Euphrates and I use to zoom
I have a long water route
Was home to an economic boom*

Polluted Tigris is the Key

By: Willie Toliver

*The polluted tigris ill will
Blood red water gushes around
So polluted causing Iraqi ill
Had good drinking water found*

*Blood red water gushes around
The tigris river is drying up
Had good drinking water found
River rises in the eastern taurus mountain cup*

*The tigris river is drying up
Debris floating causing cry
River rises in the eastern taurus mountain cup
Used to have fertile soil now desert dry*

*Debris floating causing cry
So polluted causing Iraqi ill
Used to have fertile soil now desert dry
The polluted tigris ill will*

The Giver

By: Amiya M.

*Complex Organized Civilized
Land between two rich rivers
Valley rich and fertilized, fossilized
Development and grateful giver*

*Land between two rivers
Success and everyone can access
Development and grateful giver
Polluted populated progressed*

*Success and everyone can access
Creation of irrigation, water filled the basins
Polluted populated progressed
Ancient and full of discoloration*

*Creation of irrigation, water filled the basins
Valley rich and fertilized fossilized
Ancient and full of discoloration
Complex organized civilized*

