# Connecting Communities

With support from rural communities and their libraries in the Four Corners Region in the Southwestern U.S., We are Water creates a place to meet and share stories about water, and explore and learn about water together. Designed for rural, Indigenous, and Latinx communities, stories, community voices and multiple ways of knowing are highlighted and woven throughout the exhibit and programs.

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# **COMMUNITY EXHIBITS**

We are Water creates a place where youth, families, and community members can experience, learn, share, and talk about what water means to them. The exhibit has four parts, each highlighting a different theme: (1) Water and Life, (2) Water Use, Water Rights, (3) Water in the Landscape, and (4) Water and Our Community.

### LEARNING EXPERIENCES ABOUT WATER

- A traveling exhibit
- Recorded water stories
- Take & make kits for youth and families
- Stop-Motion video workshop
- Water stewardship patch



Be a Water Detective kit, Be a Water Ecosystem Hero kit, Be a Water Historian kit, We are Water coloring book, Battle Water Pollution game board pieces, and Be a Watershed Steward kit

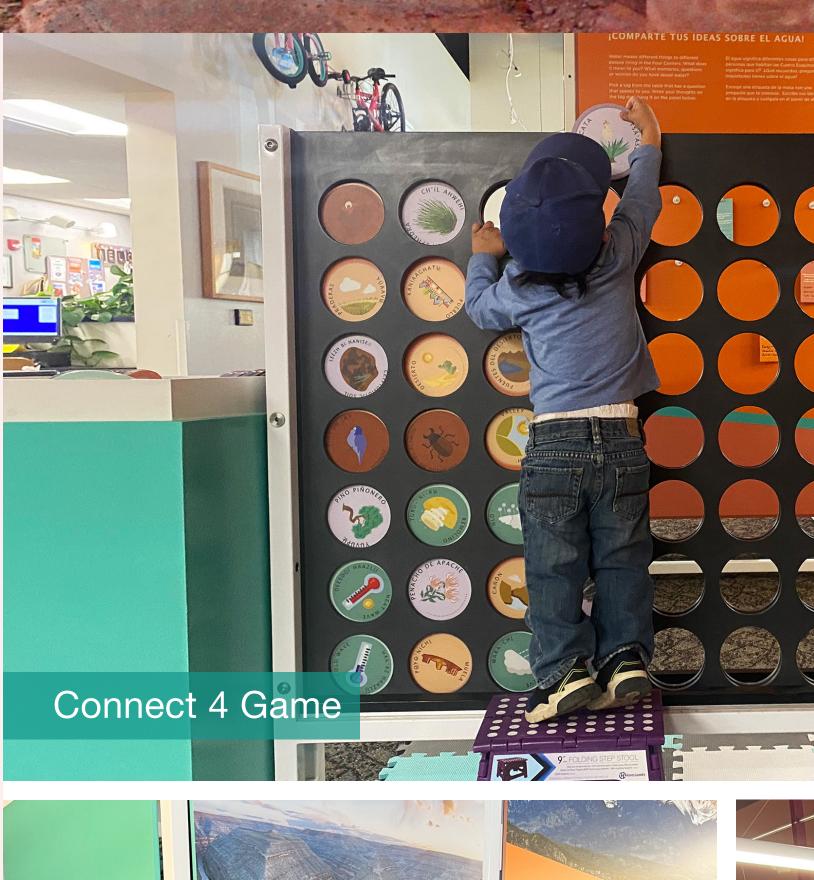
wearewater@colorado.edu

#wearewatersw www.facebook.com/WeAreWaterSW

- online course
- Games and water celebrations

Water in the Western U.S.

Resources for library staff Living room conversation







https://wearewater.colorado.edu









Opening Day at Montrose Library

## **EXPANDING OUR IMPACT**

We are Water is expanding its impact by co-developing two permanent, community-specific exhibits in rural libraries across the Four Corners Region and by hosting an NSF 75th Anniversary STEM Day event. These efforts build on years of successful engagement, emphasizing cultural relevance, local knowledge, and lasting partnerships in water education.

### **Community Exhibit Highlights**

- Two new permanent exhibits in rural libraries
- languages, and stories
- community advisors
- based learning

### **STEM Day Celebration – May 10, 2025**

- Selected to host an NSF 75th Anniversary STEM Day event at The Powerhouse science museum in Durango, Colorado
- Marks the launch of We are Water's longterm exhibit home
- Programming includes interactive, waterthemed activities, storytelling, educator training, local film festival
- Brings together tribal partners, educators, community organizations, families

# informal educators, and library staff.



NSF award # 1907024





Center for Education, **Engagement and** Evaluation



Locally customized content focusing on community water issues,

Designed through a collaborative process with library staff and

Emphasis on cultural responsiveness, community engagement, place-



We are Water springs from an exciting collaboration between scientists, Indigenous science educators, learning researchers,



