



Science Toolkit: Grade 7 Objective 6.B.1.a

Student Handout: Science: Grade 7 Objective 6.B.1.a

Standard 6.0 Environmental Science

Topic B. Environmental Issues

Indicator 1. Recognize and describe that environmental changes can have local, regional, and global consequences.

Objective a. Identify and describe a local, regional, or global environmental issue.

Selected Response (SR) Item

Question

Use the information and map below to answer the following:

Red-Dead Canal

The water in the Dead Sea is some of the saltiest water in the world. The only major river that flows into the Dead Sea is the Jordan River. Israel, Syria, and Jordan use much of the fresh water from the Jordan River for agricultural purposes. Because so little of the river water actually flows into the Dead Sea, the water level of the Dead Sea is decreasing. Much of the river water that enters the sea evaporates quickly because of the warm climate, leaving behind salts and minerals. The decreasing water level and the leftover salts and minerals have negatively affected the Dead Sea environment.

A canal that would carry salt water from the Red Sea to the Dead Sea might restore increased water levels in the Dead Sea and benefit the surrounding environment. The altered ecology might also help to generate tourism revenue. Scientists worry, however, that a saltwater canal might leak and pollute underground sources of fresh water in the region.



Salt water leaking from the canal would most likely cause

- A. a decrease in Red Sea tourism
- B. a decrease in freshwater sources
- C. an increase in the human population in the area

D. an increase in the amount of crops that are harvested

Correct Answer

B. a decrease in freshwater sources

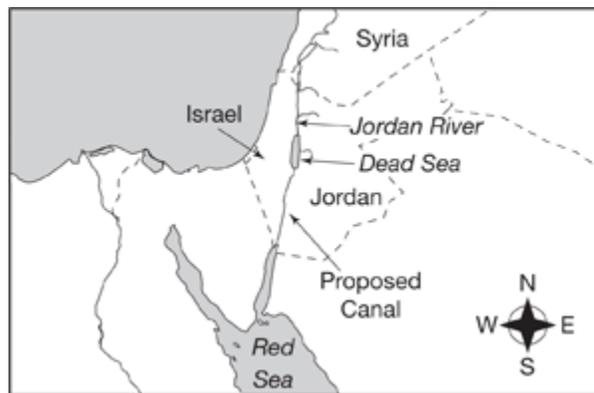
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