

CONTAMINATION CLUES: HOW DOES GROUNDWATER BECOME POLLUTED?

1. Explain the role of a monitoring well:

2. Define contaminant:

3. List three potential groundwater containments

- a.
- b.
- c.

4. What color was the water on the opposite end of the model when you started pumping?

5. What color was the water when you started pumping from the well closest to the contamination site?

6. Explain a plume:

7. In which direction do contaminates generally spread

8. Discuss how groundwater contamination can affect humans and the environment.

Extension

A. Experiment with other ways to contaminate the groundwater that are representative of real threats to groundwater quality.

Do not use actual hazardous and harmful chemicals.

I. What are some potential groundwater contamination sources produced by human activities?

II. What are examples of naturally-occurring groundwater contamination sources?

Groundwater quality is characterized by the chemical, physical, and biological characteristics of the water with respect to its suitability for a particular use.

B. Demonstrate the difference between point and non-point contamination.

C. Demonstrate how well closure can prevent contamination of groundwater. What impact does a well have on groundwater quality?
