Pittsburgh Voyager Pre-Voyage
Lesson Plan #2
Grade Level 5
"What's in this anyway?"

Objective:
The students will be able to identify unlikely sources of river pollution and brainstorm ways to help lessen the severity of the problem.

Duration:

*one class period (approx. 45 minutes)

Materials:

*paper *pencils
*corn flakes *carrots
*empty soda can *candy wrappers
*miners hat/flashlight
*plastic props-cows, toy cars/planes, house/buildings

Background Information:

*Discuss watersheds and how pollutants get into the water.

Procedures:

*ask students what causes pollution
likely responses; cars, trash, factories
*get them to talk about what else water from rivers might be used for
-get them to discuss: agriculture, mining,
different forms of transportation, etc.
*have props available so as students come up with sources of pollution they can take a corresponding prop

for example:	plastic cow	farm animal waste
	corn flakes	agriculture/farming
	toy car/plane	transportation
	monopoly houses/hotels	factories
	candy wrapper/soda can	landfills

*have students go to tables and work in cooperative groups to come up with ways to possibly lessen the severity of their prop's pollution (some ideas will surely be unrealistic)
*record ideas on data sheets

Evaluation:

*each group presents their ideas identifying the problem as well as possible solutions

Standards:

*4.1.7
-explain the role of the water cycle within a watershed
-understand the role of the watershed