Sweet Water Hunt

An interactive, watershed education novel by Connie Nye
The hunt is on. While playing on a beautiful summer day, Wyatt Nystrom and his dog, Benny, find a tennis ball with a mysterious message. The ball is just the hook to get kids like Wyatt and his cousin, Danni, involved in a journey upstream to unravel the madness of the Brandywine. With the help of “creek pals” throughout the watershed and numerous hands-on activities throughout the story, Wyatt and Danni discover a community of natural wonders, scientific studies, folklore, and crazy characters, all brought together by a remarkable creek. This is a story that not only engages the reader with its plot, but also with its interactive approach. It’s a novel and an entertaining way to learn about watershed science.
Created to teach watershed dynamics

- Watersheds
- Water Quality
- Land Use
- Erosion
- Runoff
- Water Cycle
- Water Usage
- Topography
- Water & Wastewater Treatment
Interdisciplinary

Language Arts

Social Science

Math

Encores: Art, PE, Music

Science
Science

- Watershed dynamics
- Nocturnal nature
- Astronomy
- Landfills
- Metamorphosis
- Adaptations
- Scat
- Agriculture
Social Science

- Colonization
- Map reading
- Landforms
- Water bodies
- Municipalities
- History
- Lenape Indians
- Local folklore
- Revolutionary War (Battle of the Brandywine)
- Underground railroad
- Local industries past and present (i.e. DuPont, Lukens)
Language Arts

- Letter writing
- Lenape language and prophecy
- Symbolism
- Ted Browning’s essays
- Picture books
Math

- Physical measurements of stream: width, depth, velocity, volume of flow
- Bat Math
- Light Year Math
Encores

Art: Rain barrel painting; Wyeth country; crayon rubbings
Music: Scat Rap; classic oldies
Physical Education: hiking; canoeing
Interactive

Map It!  Check It Out!  Sticker It!  Try It!  Field Trip!

Knuckle Mountain:
A simple way to understand contour lines on topographic maps.
Hands-on, literally!
Interactive

Map It!    Check It Out!    Sticker It!    Try It!    Field Trip!

Looking at aerial views of the watershed to see development.
Interactive

Map It!  Check It Out!  Sticker It!  Try It!  Field Trip!

Getting ready to catch macroinvertebrates
Chapters & Field Trips
Field Trip Opportunities

- Kalmar Nyckel replica ship
- Brandywine Park/Brandywine Zoo
- Alapocas Woods Park
- Hagley Museum
- Brandywine Creek State Park
- Brandywine River Museum
- Longwood Gardens
- Brandywine Battlefield
- Myrick Conservation Center (Brandywine Valley Association)
- Stroud Preserve
- Chester County Historical Society
- Embreeville/ChesLen Preserve
- The Laurels
- Paradise Farm Camps
- Struble & Uwchlan Trails
- Water and Wastewater Treatment Plants
- Lukens National Historic District
- Saalbach Farm (Brandywine Valley Association)
- Marsh Creek State Park
- Hibernia & Springton Manor County Parks
- Struble Lake
- Lanchester Landfill
Sweet Water Hunt Book Club:
The Pilot Program at Beaver Creek Elementary
Sweet Water Hunt Book Club Pilot Program

- Beaver Creek Elementary after-school book club
- Directed by Connie Nye
- Led by high school juniors from the STEM Academy
- Weekly club from September through May
- 5 field trips taken
- 2 rain barrels produced
- Pre to Post Assessment:
  - 4th graders’ scores rose by 41 %
  - STEM juniors’ scores rose by 22%.
Kalmar Nyckel

Students went for a ride on this replica of the first ship to bring settlers to Wilmington to hunt for beaver pelts.
Hagley Museum

Seeing how water was harnessed for power to make gunpowder by the du Ponts
Where Buck and Doe Runs merge, heading to the West Branch of the Brandywine
Downingtown Municipal Water Authority & Downingtown Regional Water Pollution Control Center

Inside at the water treatment plant

Downstream at the wastewater treatment plant
Lanchester Landfill

A view of the Brandywine Watershed
Rain Barrels Service Project

Sweet Water Hunt is a perfect springboard for students to implement stream quality service projects.

Rain barrels conserve water and help reduce runoff.
The Ultimate Watershed Learning Experience

🌟 Read Sweet Water Hunt
🌟 Participate in a Red Streams Blue Program
**About the Watershed**

- 210,000 acres of land
- 60 miles of creek
- Includes Honey Brook, Coatesville, Downingtown, West Chester, Chadds Ford, Wilmington
- Goes to Christina River, Delaware River, Delaware Bay, Atlantic Ocean
- Source of drinking water for many of us
- Red streams are impaired
- Blue streams are healthy
- A concern to us all
About the Author

Connie Nye (formerly Shapiro) lives in Downingtown, Pennsylvania, and has been working with children for thirty years in environmental, science, and outdoor education. She has developed numerous workshops and programs for elementary, middle, and high school students, including Indoor Out School, Brandywine FLOWS (the Future/the Legacy of Our WaterShed) and the Red Streams Blue School Program. As the mother of two daughters, an avid outdoor person, and a writer, Ms. Nye couldn’t think of a better way to spend her days than exploring the Brandywine watershed. This is her first novel.
Purchasing the Novel

Available through SWEET or Connie Nye; discounts may apply

Paperback = $20
Hardback = $30

A portion of the purchases made from SWEET goes to 1) Chester County Fund for Women and Girls and 2) Cave Bird Coffee Cup of Life. These non-profits help to improve the lives of families in Chester County and in Uganda

Also available through www.authorhouse.com
Also available through www.amazon.com
SWEET
Sweet Water Education Events Training

For more programs related to Sweet Water Hunt, visit www.sweetwatered.com