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Recycled Water Assessment Sheet - Answer Key

<u>Pre-Activity Assessment:</u> To understand the treatment of wastewater, one must understand the water cycle and nitrogen cycle.

- 1. Watch the 10-minute video: How do Wastewater Treatment Plants work? (https://youtu.be/FvPakzqM3h8)
- 2. Answer the following questions about WWTP.

If the Earth's water cycle goes through these four stages:

Evaporation → Condensation → Precipitation → Collection

a. Which of these four stages are we taking too much of and overusing, which is contributing to our drought?

Collection

- b. Why is it important to remove the large objects with a Bar Screen in the pretreatment process?

 Large objects can damage the pumps and other components of the system.
- 3. Watch the 12-minute video: Nitrogen Removal Basics (https://youtu.be/BosHU4ARR9w)
- 4. Answer the following questions about the Nitrogen Cycle. During the nitrification, ammonia (NH₄₊) and ammonia (NH₃) is converted to nitrite (NO₂₋), then nitrate (NO₃₋), and finally it goes through denitrification where nitrate becomes nitrogen gas (N₂).
 - a. Where is the evidence for the nitrogen gas found?

 $NH_4^+/NH_3 \rightarrow NO_2^- \rightarrow NO_3^- \rightarrow N_2$

The evidence for the nitrogen gas is the gas found in the atmosphere – approximately 70%.

b. When bacteria are breaking down nitrogen compounds, what gas do they need in order to process and break down nitrogen compounds? How does the WWTP add this gas to the bacterial sludge? Please explain.

The bacteria need oxygen gas to decompose nitrogen compounds. The WWTP uses bubblers during the aeration stage.





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Activity-Embedded (Formative) Assessment

5. Place the following processes for treating wastewater in the correct order:

a. Secondary Clarifier
 b. Bar Screens
 c. Aeration Basin
 d. Grit Chamber
 e. Disinfection
 Bar Screens
 Grit Chamber
 Aeration Basin
 Secondary Clarifiers

f. Primary Clarifier Disinfection

Sketch and design your home wastewater treatment device in the space below.
 Designs vary by group. Parts and materials should be labeled. Each group's sketch should clearly explain their device's water-cleaning process. It should cover all phases of treating blackwater.
 (See Rubric #4 Score).





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- 7. Testing: Below is a template of a data table that an engineer would use to test your device.
 - a. Think about what tests you might want to incorporate that would test the efficiency of your device pH (acidity), solids, turbidity (clarity of water), etc.
 - b. What tests do you think would be the most important to test your device's efficiency? Label your column headings. Just write the Test Type in the column headings. Do NOT fill the rest of the data table.

				Rubric			
Test Type	pH (Acidity)	Solids	BOD	DO	Nitrogen Content	Clarity (Turbidity)	Other possible answers: TIN, TKN,
Initial							Total Nitrogen, Nitrites, Nitrates, Organic Nitrogen, Ammonia Nitrogen.
Middle							
Final							

- 8. Engineering: Create your home wastewater treatment device using the materials provided.
- 9. Hand this sheet to another group and have them score your project. They should circle the appropriate score AND provide suggestions for improvement.

4	3	2	1
Group's sketch clearly	Group's sketch clearly	Group's sketch clearly	Group's sketch did NOT
explained their device's	explained their	explained their device's	explain their device's
water-cleaning process.	device's water- cleaning process.	water-cleaning process.	water-cleaning process.
It covered all phases of	and the second s	It did NOT cover all	It did NOT cover all
treating blackwater.	It covered all phases	phases of treating	phases of treating
The model reflects	of treating blackwater.	blackwater. The model	blackwater. The model
their sketch.	The model does NOT	does NOT reflect their	does NOT reflect their
	reflect their sketch.	sketch.	sketch.



