



# Seahorse Rescue Mission

## Activity Sheet



*Unscramble the words to complete the sentences below:*

- ecosystem 1. A natural unit that includes living and non-living parts interacting together is called an O C S E S Y M T E.
- watershed 2. A S R A T E H E D W is an area of land that drains into a water body. Its boundaries are the highest points of land around that water body.
- seahorses 3. Even though they don't look like fish, H E R S A S E S O have gills and fins and are classified as fish. Some of the characteristics that set them apart from other fish are their tube-shaped mouths, independently rotating eyes, elongated bodies ending in prehensile tails, and a unique twist in reproduction with males carrying the fertilized eggs.
- runoff 4. The movement of rainfall along the top of the ground into the nearest body of water rather than soaking into the ground is called F U O F R N. This occurs when the soil cannot hold any more water or when the ground is covered with pavement or another impermeable surface.
- habitat 5. An area in which an organism lives and can obtain food, water, shelter and space is called its T I H T A B A.
- riparian zone 6. The P I A R A I R N N E O Z refers to the area directly adjacent to a waterway. It includes the vegetation that covers the bank and the strip of land of at least 100 feet out from the waterway. These areas provide many benefits, including wildlife habitat, natural flood control, shoreline erosion control, pollution reduction, and recreation.
- nonpoint source 7. Pollution where the source is broad and cannot be easily pinpointed is also called N I O P N O N T U S R O E C pollution.
- point source 8. I P N O T U S R O E C pollution is discharge from a particular pipe or leak which can be easily pinpointed.
- pollution 9. The presence of any substance that harms the environment is called L O P T I L U N O; categories include chemical, biological and thermal.
- nutrients 10. T I N T S E R U N such as phosphorus and nitrogen are used for fertilizers and are naturally found in sewage and animal wastes. Plants depend on them for growth. Excess T I N T S E R U N can enter a waterway when fertilizers are overapplied, septic systems leak, or when sewage effluent is insufficiently cleaned. In seahorse habitats, T I N T S E R U N increase algae growth which blocks sunlight from reaching the sea grass beds. The sea grasses die off, and the seahorses lose their homes.

