THE POWER OF WATER

Students research how water is important to our economy and produce illustrated booklets to summarize what they learn.

What You Need
- Large drawing or construction paper
- Drawing materials
- Stapler or other means of binding booklets
- Tape, glue, or paste
- Encyclopedias and other reference materials

What to Do
1. Explain to students that having a reliable source of water is not only necessary to human, animal, and plant life, it is also often very important to businesses and industries. Ask students to suggest examples of occupations that depend on water. Write their answers on the board or a chart. Examples might include the following:
   - Agriculture, including irrigation canals or other commercial waterways
   - Car wash
   - Fire department
   - Fishing industry (including fish farming)
   - Hydroelectric plant
   - Hydroponics
   - Port with international shipping
   - Resort with boating and swimming
   - Swimming pool
   - Water bottling company

2. Have students working independently (or with a partner) choose one business or industry to research and report on. The report, in the form of a six- or eight-page booklet, should contain information and drawings that demonstrate (1) why water is vital to that industry and (2) how the water is used.

3. Have students prepare their booklets by folding large drawing or construction paper in half and making a front cover with a title and their name(s). Have students write their text and make their drawings on separate pieces of paper, and then attach their final copies to the covers. Bind the booklets and add them to the library table.