



## Lesson 9: Testing and Editing Your Watershed Quest

**Focusing Question:** *Does your quest work? Does it lead people to the box? Does it share your site's story? Is it fun?*

**Overview:** To test their quest, students return to the quest site with volunteers. Utilizing notes resulting from the test session, students revise the quest.

### **Teacher Preparation:**

- 1.** Prior to this lesson, recruit your "quest testers." These might be parents, neighbors, even another class at your school. They should not be people who were involved in making the quest, nor should they be people who are familiar with your quest site.
- 2.** Make copies of the quest—one for each tester and one for each student (or group).
- 3.** Before you begin testing, make sure students realize how important this part of the process is. You can tell them, "You've all done a lot of work, and this is the time where all that work can either bear tasty fruit—a great quest—or bear sour grapes—a quest that is confusing, even annoying. Your quest may do both. This test run will show you which parts need to be adjusted."

### **Materials:**

- Copies of the quest
- Pen/pencil
- Clipboards
- Computer

**Length of time to complete:** 3 hours

**Procedures:**

- 1.** Ask your testers to read the quest aloud one clue at a time and to try to follow it.
- 2.** Follow the testers, at a distance of 5 to 10 feet. You need to follow far enough back that you don't give away your clues, yet close enough to hear what the testers are saying, even to anticipate what they are thinking!
- 3.** Watch carefully to learn where your quest works and where your testers are confused.
- 4.** When you are sure that the testers are confused—headed in the wrong direction—stop them, backtrack and clarify your clues in order to redirect them onto the correct path.
- 5.** Each group should take responsibility for revising its portion of the quest (movement clue and teaching clue). However, all students—regardless of grouping—can help in the editing Work together. Enjoy the process. And celebrate success!
- 6.** At the completion of the testing, thank your testers!
- 7.** Utilizing your notes from the testing session, each group revises its section of the quest.
- 8.** Each group reads aloud its final draft.
- 9.** The final quest is distributed to participating students as well as to the local Chamber of Commerce, community libraries, local preschools and elementary schools, and so on.