

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_



# RISE to Action for Clean Water

## Activity Book



THE STORY OF  
**STUFF**  
PROJECT

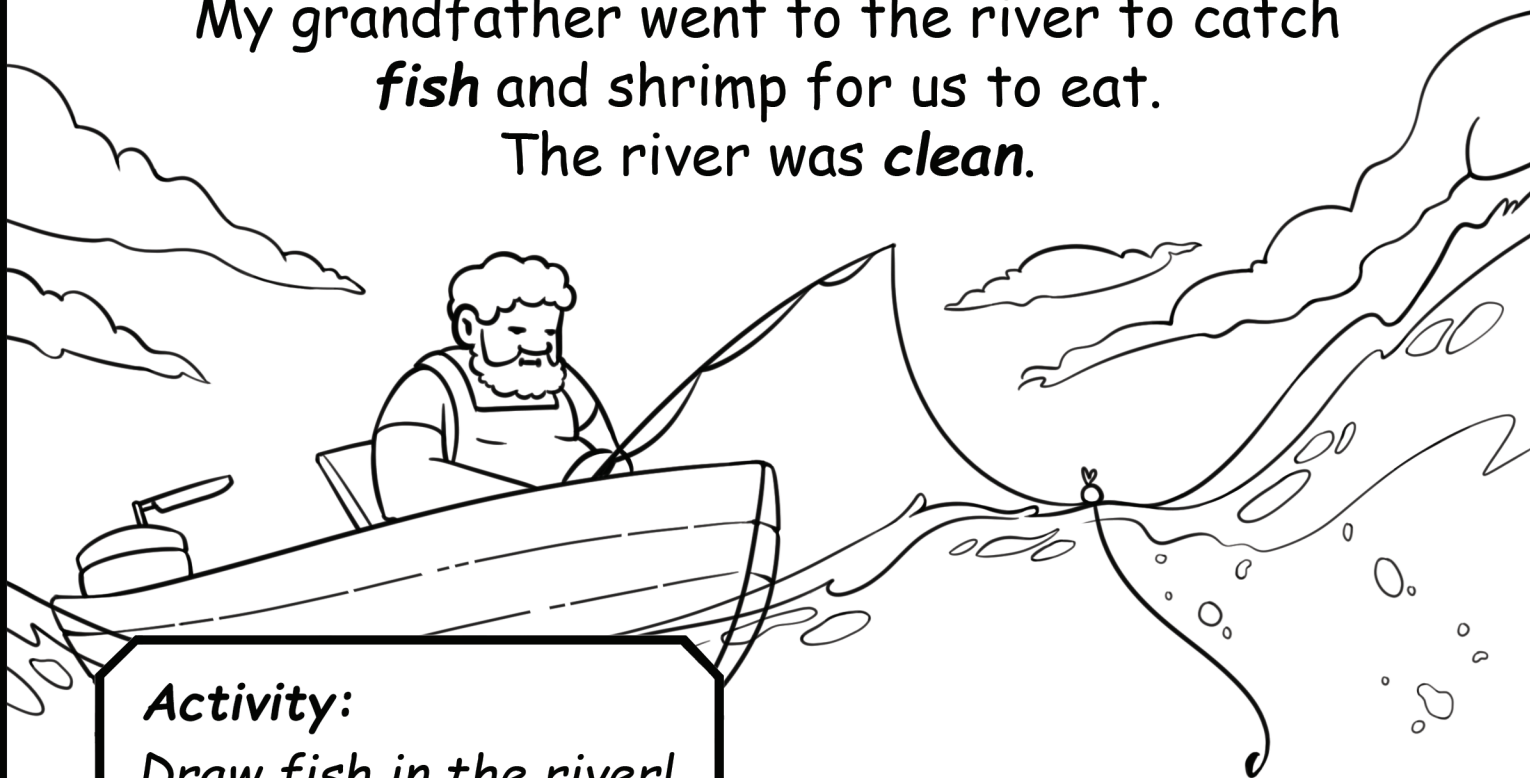
A project of RISE St. James Louisiana in partnership with The Story of Stuff  
Project created in honor of Black History Month, February 2025.  
The art is inspired by the video "Sharon Lavigne's Story of RISE St. James Louisiana"  
in The World We Need video series.  
Watch this video at [bit.ly/sharonstjames](https://bit.ly/sharonstjames)



Grandma, why is  
the *Mississippi* River  
unclean?

The river wasn't  
always unclean...

When I was a young girl, the river was beautiful.  
My grandfather went to the river to catch  
**fish** and shrimp for us to eat.  
The river was **clean**.



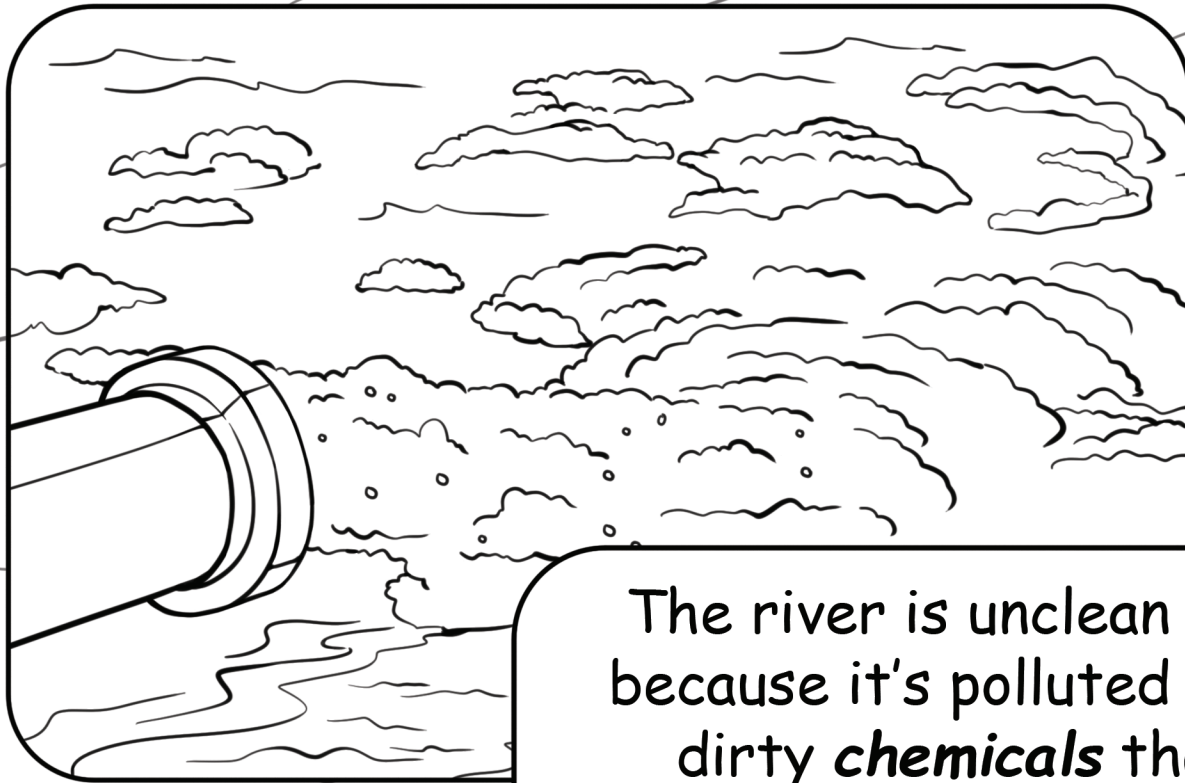
**Activity:**

*Draw fish in the river!*

Why isn't it clean anymore?

Why can't we  
catch fish here now?





The river is unclean now because it's polluted with dirty **chemicals** that make the **water** unsafe. Those chemicals in the water make people sick.

Grandma,  
where did the chemicals  
come from?







One day, the big **industries** came into our town and made chemicals that polluted the river. The water inside our homes comes from the Mississippi River, so the **pollution** got everywhere.



The industries polluting our houses and communities caused so many problems. We have to **drink** water from **bottles** since the water in our homes isn't safe. We can't eat the fish from the river.



So many people here got sick from the pollution that they started calling our home *Cancer Alley*.



Grandma,  
I love our *community*.

How can we make  
our water clean again?

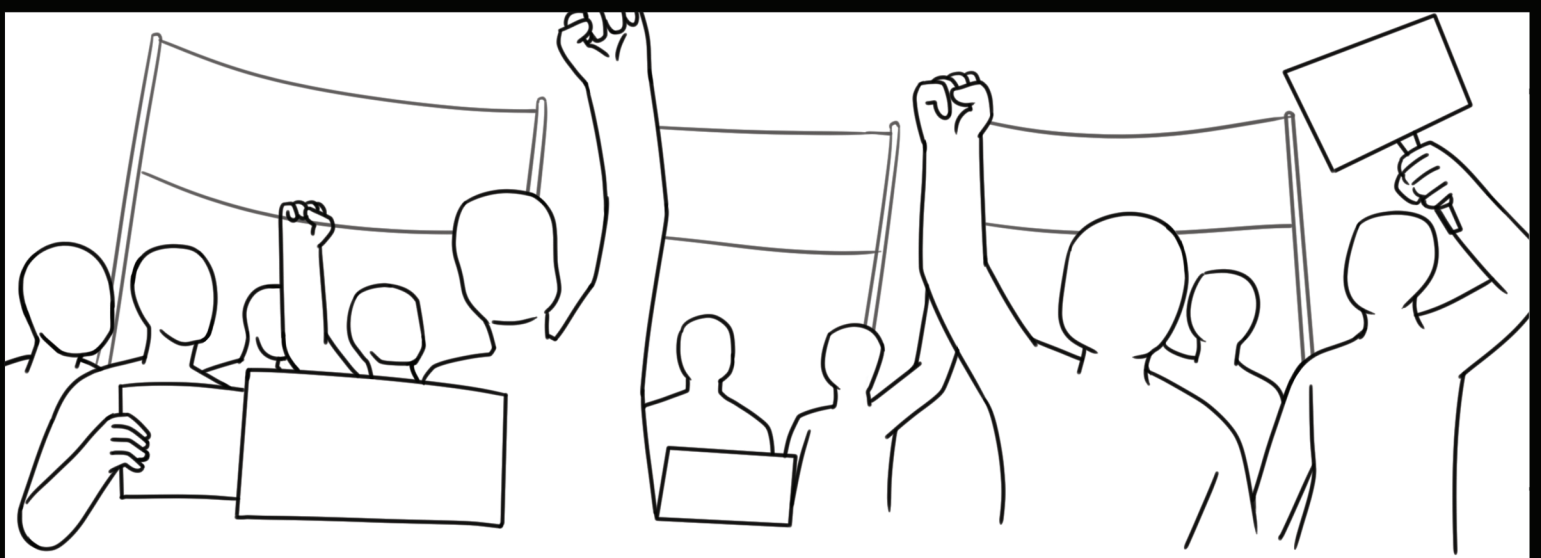
How can we stop  
the industries  
from polluting?



First, we pray, which gives us strength, courage, and connection to God.

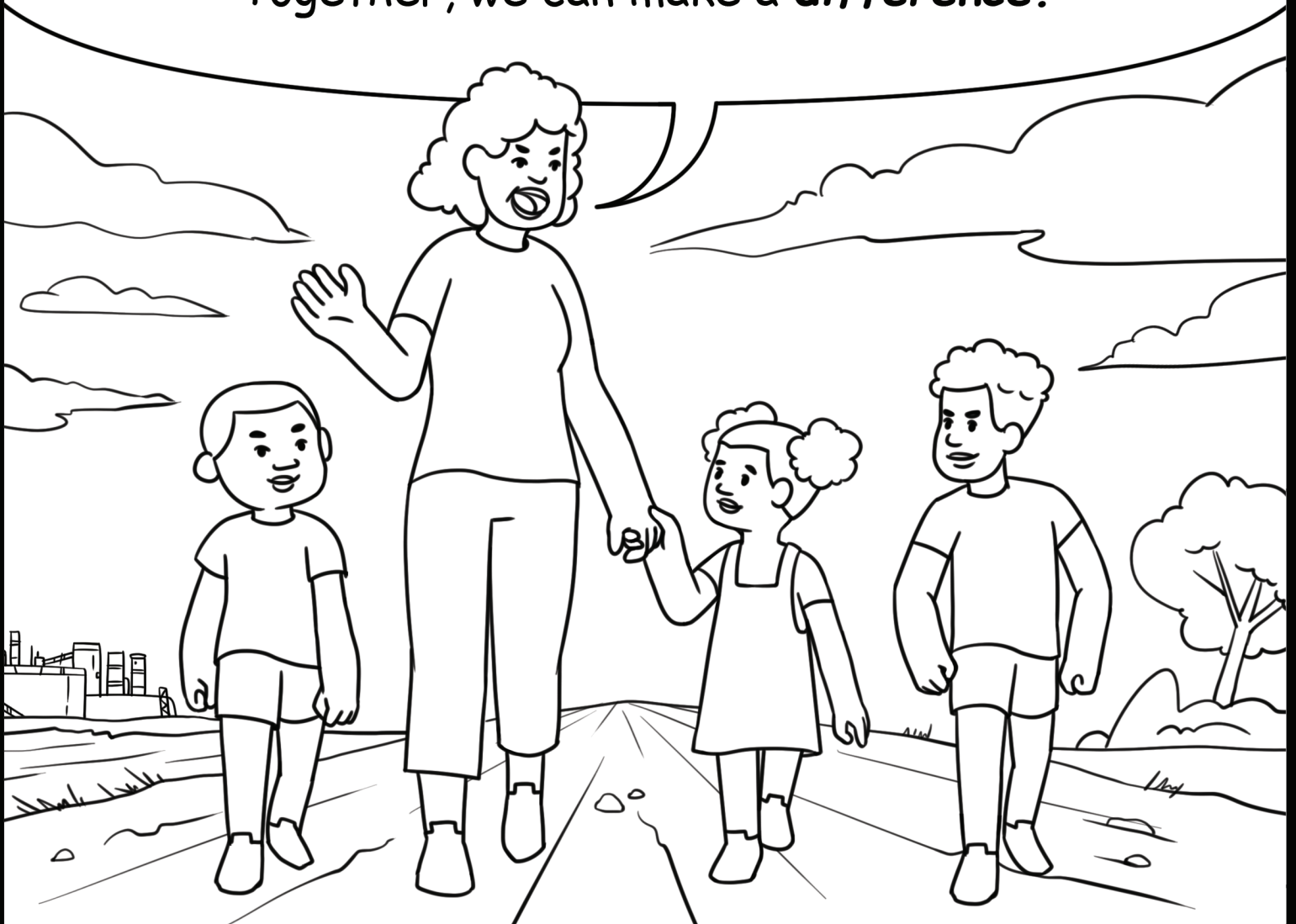
Then, we *organize* with our neighbors and make a plan together to stop pollution.





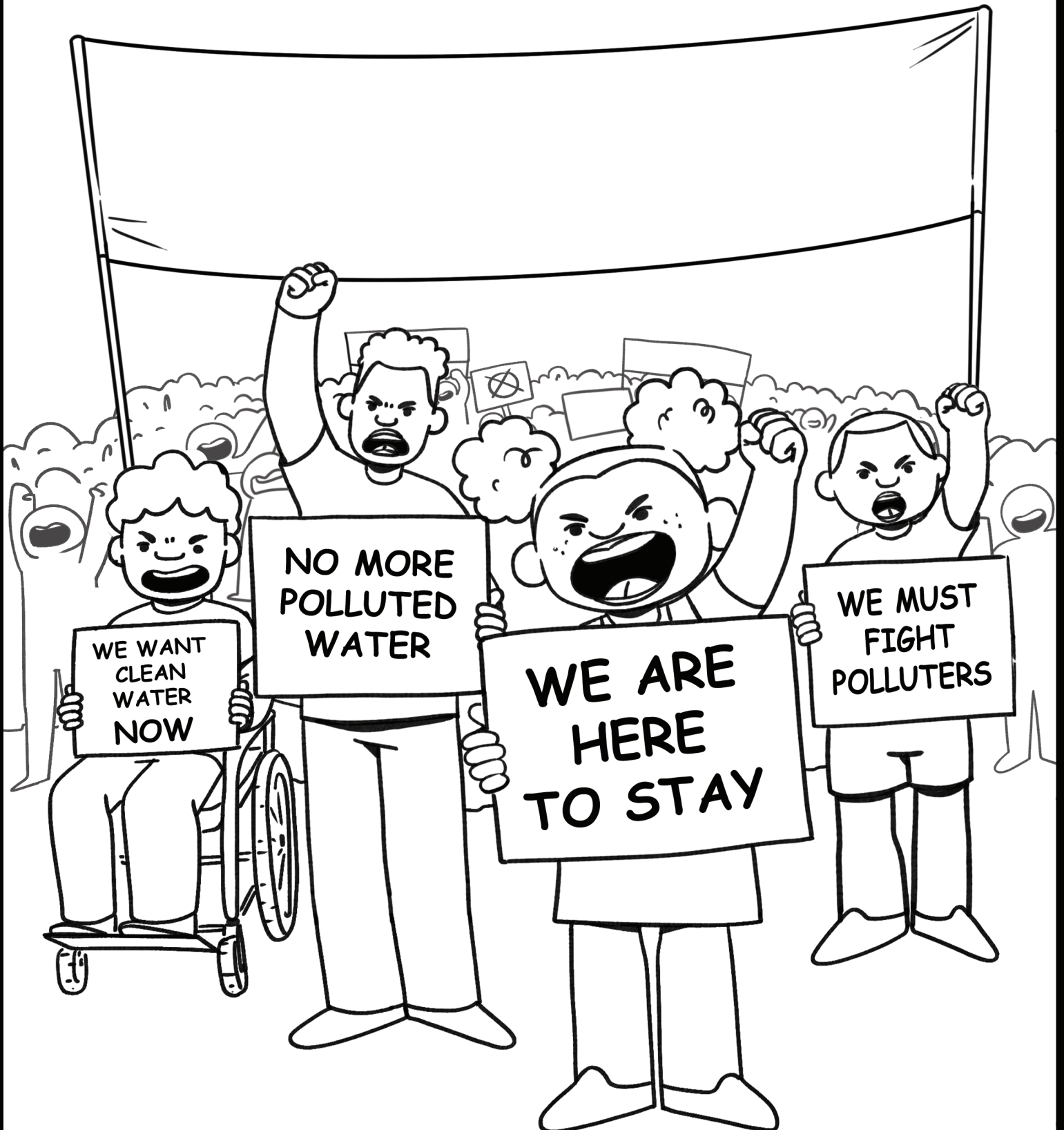
Our voices matter.

We can stand up for our community and take action.  
We can talk to our parents, teachers, and friends,  
and tell them what's happening.  
Together, we can make a *difference*.



**Activity:**

*Draw a protest sign or write what you believe.*







We will  
keep going.

We will  
keep fighting.

Someday,  
our river  
will be clear  
and beautiful.

Someday,  
we'll have  
clean water to  
drink again.



## Word Search

T	C	O	M	M	U	N	I	T	Y	O	Y	Q	O	O
J	U	A	X	Y	R	N	Z	O	W	E	W	D	C	Z
B	M	J	O	C	P	E	V	T	V	I	B	Q	H	D
O	I	Z	F	G	G	C	T	O	X	Z	E	Q	E	I
T	M	D	I	N	D	U	S	T	R	I	E	S	M	F
T	Q	D	I	S	M	U	I	X	F	W	F	C	I	F
L	M	I	S	S	I	S	S	I	P	P	I	K	C	E
E	H	T	N	F	X	D	N	R	P	X	S	S	A	R
S	P	O	L	L	U	T	I	O	N	N	H	H	L	E
S	S	L	X	X	N	N	Q	N	A	T	U	S	S	N
H	D	Q	G	O	W	Z	P	O	Y	B	D	V	G	C
C	L	E	A	N	A	V	X	D	R	I	N	K	Q	E
C	Y	U	H	P	T	G	E	X	I	G	Y	X	F	S
Z	Y	V	R	T	E	T	Q	S	Y	I	L	F	S	A
V	O	Y	Y	X	R	G	O	R	G	A	N	I	Z	E

## Word Bank

Mississippi

Industries

Difference

Chemicals

Pollution

Community

Organize

Bottles

Water

Drink

Clean

Fish