Well, Well, Well Activity Sheet

1. How do wells bring groundwater to the surface?

2. What happens to the water table as water is pumped from the ground?

3. What must happen for the water table to remain at the same level when water is being pumped out?

4. How do pollutants move from surface water into groundwater? (Note: Groundwater can be recharged—and polluted—by surface water, especially if large volumes of water are being pumped from the ground, but surface water usually represents a “discharge area” where groundwater comes to the surface and evaporates into the atmosphere.)

5. How can pollutants be detected in well water? Can all pollutants be detected?
6. What effects might a contaminated well have on a family using the water?

7. Do you think an improperly constructed well might contaminate groundwater? If so, how?