

Death in the river

1 What's happened to our rivers?

- a) *Work with a partner. What do you think this boy is doing? Describe the picture.*

People throw millions of tons of waste into American rivers every year. American Rivers is an organization that promotes National River Cleanup, a very popular river cleanup program. American Rivers was founded in 1973. Today it has over 65,000 members. National River Cleanup can be organized everywhere in the United States at any time in the year.

Since 1991 over 900,000 volunteers have worked in thousands of cleanups all over the country. They have cleaned over 162,000 miles of water, and they have removed over 8.7 million pounds of waste from America's rivers.

NEW WORDS

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| to promote | fördern, unterstützen |
| cleanup | Säuberung, Reinigung |
| member | Mitglied |
| volunteer | Freiwillige(r) |
| to remove | entfernen, beseitigen |
| to care about | sich kümmern um |



- b) *Read the text. Then decide which sentence goes with which number.*

162,000

900,000

8.7

65,000

1. "There are so many clean rivers now!"

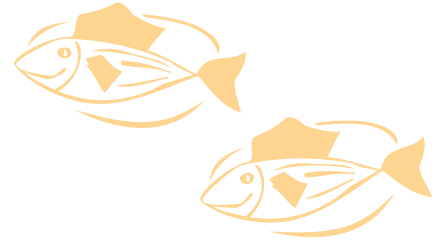
2. "It's great to work for an organization that really helps the environment."

3. "Look at all the waste we've collected!"

4. "Come and help us on Saturday. It's a lot of fun and there are lots of people there."

- c) Make a dialogue with a partner. One of you wants to be a volunteer in a river cleanup, the other one doesn't. Look at the pros and cons first.

| pros | cons |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| You want to be a volunteer at the river cleanup on Saturday. You think it's important to clean up the environment and you like to help. People don't care about the river. They just throw things in it. After the cleanup there's always a big party and it's a lot of fun. | You're really busy this weekend. There's a football game on Saturday afternoon and it's your mother's birthday. Also, you don't think it's your job to clean up a river. Why should you clean up? You didn't make it dirty. |



Lösungen

1

- a) individuelle Antworten. Mögliche Antwort: *There is a boy in a river. He's standing in the water, and he's wearing a baseball cap. The water looks clean, the area seems to be out of town, possibly in a national park. But even here there is waste in the river, like cups and cans. The boy is removing the waste from the water.*
- b) 1 = 162,000 miles of water 2 = 65,000 members 3 = 8.7 million pounds of waste 4 = 900,000 volunteers
- c) individuelle Antworten