

## **Cleaning Up Water**

### **BACKGROUND**

Water is an essential nutrient. We cannot survive without water. While the majority of the earth's surface is covered with water, not all of the water is potable. For example, although Lake Michigan is a fresh water lake, we do not drink water directly from the lake. It is treated before it is pumped to our homes. Some people further treat their tap water by filtering the water in their homes. You and your high school team designed a method for cleaning a water sample.

### **Claims and evidence**

What claims can you make regarding your method of cleaning water? What evidence do you have to support your claims?

### **Reflection**

Would you consider drinking the water sample you cleaned? Why or why not? Remember you never consume anything in a lab, this is a hypothetical question.

### **Application**

Investigate what activated charcoal is and explain its role in the cleaning up of water. Review the documents on treating waste water and fresh water treatment process and explain how the methods used in these processes compare with what you did to clean your water sample. Include similarities and differences.