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Date _____



Flint Water Crisis

“There’s Something in the Water”

Thanks to the 6th graders in Mr. Karkainen’s class for these lyrics, and shoutout to Enumclaw Middle School.

In the US, some people have the expectation
Of clean drinking water across the nation.
So this may come as a shock, but listen in,
About the water crisis in Flint, Michigan.
For years, Flint pumped its water from Detroit,
Then city and state officials made the choice
To switch to Lake Huron’s water supply.
But it wasn’t ready, so in the meantime
A money-saving plan was put into effect,
The Flint River would be the water connect.
But soon the error of that decision was seen,
When people started noticing the water wasn’t clean.
They complained about the taste, color and the smell,
And tests showed bacteria and toxins as well.
Then Detroit said, “Hey, we’ll reconnect you!”
And many people thought it was a breakthrough.
But the financial manager rejected the offer.
Though lead was found in the water,
And found in the blood of Flint’s sons and daughters.
Then warnings came from the doctors:
Lead poisoning causes lowered IQ,
ADD, aggression, poor problem solving, too.
26,000 had signed a petition,
Demanding a switch to Detroit’s water system.

But it was too late when Flint finally listened,
'Cause for 18 months, the city had been drinking
Water that was leaching lead from rusty pipes.
And city officials, you can trust them, right?
The people of Flint were filled with unease,
First the lead, then a waterborne disease.
Officials found bacteria that causes Legionnaires'
In the water, but residents were left unaware.
10 died and 88 were infected,
And Flint's bad water is what many suspected.
Then in January 2016,
Obama declared a state of emergency.
Federal financial aid was granted,
The resignation of Michigan officials was demanded.
Now an investigation is ongoing,
Week in Rap Extra, coming to a closing.