

Chapter 15

Use with Section 3

ENRICHMENT**● Water Environments****The Everglades**

The Florida Everglades are unique—there is nothing else quite like them in the world. They are a habitat for a tremendous number of organisms, and they provide a breeding ground for many more species. Despite their environmental importance, these wetlands have been under attack by human development for decades. Some scientists are concerned that the Everglades may have been irreversibly harmed. We might lose these wetlands forever.

Use library resources to write a report on the Everglades. Look in the library's computer or card catalog for books on this topic. Check the *Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature* or the library's computer search system for recent magazine articles on the Everglades. Use at least three books or articles to write your report. List these sources at the end of your report.

Try to answer these questions in your report:

- Where are the Everglades?
- How much area do the Everglades cover?
- What lake and river system feeds the Everglades?
- What animals live in the Everglades?
- What are some animals that use the Everglades as breeding grounds?
- How much area has the Everglades lost in recent years?
- What major city has been spreading into the area that once was part of the Everglades?
- What was the role of the Army Corps of Engineers in changing the environment in the Everglades?
- How is water that goes into the Everglades controlled?
- What have environmentalists been saying about the danger of losing the Everglades?
- At the end of your report, write a paragraph expressing your own opinions about the threat to the Everglades and what should be done.

