

Outrun the Currents

Teacher Guide

Feel free to email with any questions:
hhemphill@hawk.illinoistech.edu
agray13@hawk.illinoistech.edu

You will receive a .zip file containing:

- outrunthe currents.html – the main file you open to play the game
- This Teaching Guide (PDF)

To run the game, you only need:

- A laptop or desktop computer
- A way to display the screen to your class (any of the following):
 - Projector
 - Smartboard / Interactive whiteboard
 - Smart TV
 - Classroom computer connected to a large display
- A mouse or touchscreen to click choices

Step 1 – Download and unzip the folder

1. Save the .zip file to your computer.
2. Right-click → Extract All (Windows) or double-click to unzip (Mac).
3. Open the folder. Inside you will find the .html file.

Step 2 – Open the game

1. Double-click the GameName.html file.
2. Your default web browser (Chrome, Firefox, Safari, Edge, etc.) will open automatically.
3. The title screen of the game should appear.

Displaying the Game to Students

Choose whichever option your classroom has available:

Option A – Projector

1. Connect your computer to the projector.
2. Project the game window onto your whiteboard or screen.
3. Use your mouse to click through choices as students decide what to do.

Option B – Smartboard or Interactive Display

1. Open the game on your connected computer OR directly on the board if it has a built-in browser.
2. Students can tap directly on the smartboard to choose options.

Option C – Smart TV / Large Display

1. Connect via HDMI, screen mirroring, or a classroom device.
2. Display the browser window with the game.

How to Play as a Class

This game is designed for group decision-making.
Quick Start

1. Read the story passages aloud OR assign student volunteers to read.
2. When a choice appears, pause and discuss.
3. Have students vote on the choice:
 - Raised hands
 - Small-group discussions first
 - Quick poll or tally on the board
4. Click the option the class selects.
5. Continue until the story reaches one of its possible endings.

Teacher Tips

- Encourage reasoning: ask “Why do you think we should choose this option?”
- Let students predict what will happen next.
- Replay the game another day to explore a different branch of the story.
- Use it as a writing or discussion prompt after finishing