

What is a Watershed?

Watershed activities are directly tied to
the second spread - pages 3 and 4 of "Our Wetland Project".

What is a Watershed?

What determines the flow of a stream in a watershed?

In this lesson students will participate in discussions, brainstorming, and hands on activities to discover how stream bank disturbance can affect the shape and size of the stream bed, and impact water quantity and direction of flow.

Levels

Grades 3 and up

Subjects

Science, Language Arts, Social Studies, Mathematics

Skills

Discussing, Analyzing, Solving, Explaining

Concepts

Geographic determinates of a watershed

Water is a limited resource

Objectives: Students will be able to:

Describe the parts of a stream

Evaluate the changing circumstances along a stream bank

Identify a watershed

List three uses for the land and the water within their local watershed

Materials (20 student class-size)

green flagging

blue flagging

Time Considerations

Preparation - 30 minutes

Activity - 90 minutes

Lesson Overview

- **Be a Stream** (30 minutes)
 - **Watershed Scavenger Hunt** (15 minutes)
 - **Crumple a Watershed** (45 minutes)
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Background

A stream is a flowing body of water with a current, confined within a bed and stream banks.

Vocabulary

Water - amount and speed

Stream Banks - width and depth

Stream Beds - kind of material

Dirt=Sediment - amount carried and deposited in a stream

Channel Shape - amount the stream winds as it moves downstream = sinuosity

Riparian Area - landscape between dryland and the stream.