

Making a Watershed

Developing and Using Models

Using disposable cake pans or shallow boxes, florist foam or clay, and aluminum foil (to represent the ground surface), build a model of a watershed that demonstrates how water travels downhill and gathers in a larger body of water. Create ways to represent sediment and pollution that enters the flow of water along its way.

Below is a list of suggestions for materials - you can use anything you have around the house that you think might work. Please ask a parent or other adult to help you gather what you need.

General supplies:

- a pair of scissors
- tape and/or glue
- pen and pencil, crayons and markers if you have them
- paper

First you'll need something that can hold water:

- baking sheet with edge
- tray with edge
- large pot
- "turkey roaster thingy"
- bucket etc
- plastic bowl
- anything else you think will work

Then you'll need building materials. Here are some ideas (anything will work!):

- saran wrap, plastic wrap
- aluminum foil
- plastic plates or bowls
- clay
- paint
- rocks
- cardboard
- cup
- cardboard
- styrofoam
- fake trees/plants
- colored glue
- cotton
- straws
- paint brushes
- legos
- water
- water spray can

- a funnel
- food coloring

Last, you'll need to simulate rain. Here are some suggestions:

- a clean/empty spray bottle
- a paper or plastic cup or bowl with holes in the bottom
- "a straw track"
- a syringe
- Or... a wet hand dribbling water :-)

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