



Stream Table Lesson Plan

Synopsis, Resource Links, and Vocabulary List

**2019
MN Standard
7.4.4.1.2**
*Life Science - Human
Interactions with Living
Systems*
**Next Generation WI
MS-ESS2-4**
Earth Systems

Goals: This lesson will teach students the basic components of stream geomorphology and stream health within the context of a watershed.

Objectives: After this lesson the students will be able to:

- a. Explain the fundamentals of stream geomorphology using basic but correct terminology.
- b. Identify natural processes that form streams.
- c. Use critical thinking skills to link physical habitat integrity to biological integrity.
- d. Understand how human impacts can change streams and implications within the watershed.

Length: May vary from 0.5 to 1.5 hours (depending on activities and length of time provided)

Audience: Level of detail depends on audience (Kindergarten to High School)

Equipment: Portable stream table, water source, several 5-gallon buckets and an open space at least 8x12 feet.

Methods: Lecture, experience, guided discovery, discussion, visuals

LIST OF TERMS and USEFUL REFERENCES FOR RIVERQUEST

USDA FOREST SERVICE
National Forest
Watershed
Aquatic
Reservoir
Estuary
Wetland
Aquifer
Ecosystems
Topography

Stream geomorphology (pool, riffle, and run.)
Geology
Water cycle
Photosynthesis
Evaporation
Erosion
Sediment
Velocity
Riparian
Habitat

Helpful On-line References:

- <http://www.fs.fed.us/biology/watershed/index.html>
- <http://www.naturalinquirer.org/Are-Mountain-Stream-Channels-Shaped-by-Flood-and-Drought-a-22.html>
- <http://www.naturalinquirer.org/Ecosystem-Services-Natural-Inquirer-i-26.html>
- <http://portal.projectwet.org/>
- <http://www.discovertheforest.org/>
- <http://water.epa.gov/learn/kids/waterkids/kids.cfm>

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