

WATER MAPPING

Where does the water go around your home?

DETAILS

- Age: 4th - 8th grade
- Time: 10 - 40 minutes
- Materials: journal and pencil, a stick or leaf

PREPARATION

- Wait for a rainy or melt-y day when water is flowing around your home.
- Dress properly to be in wet weather!

COVID PRECAUTIONS

When choosing a place to explore, please be mindful of the CDC's recommended social distancing protocols.

WEATHERING & EROSION

Here are some simple definitions:

Weathering: Rocks and soil
BREAK

Erosion: Rocks and soil MOVE

ENGINEERING EXTENSION

What influences do people have on where the water is flowing?
What influence does nature have?

OBJECTIVES

- PREDICT where water flows
- OBSERVE what happens during rain or when snow melts
- SKETCH a water drainage map

ACTIVITY STEPS

PREDICT

- ☞ Imagine yourself as a raindrop or a melting snowflake somewhere near your home. Close your eyes - predict the path of that droplet. Ask yourself/your student:
 - Where does it start? Where is it going?
 - Where does it move faster? What slows it down?
 - Are there lots of other droplets traveling with it?
 - Is it carrying anything? Soil? Leaves?

OBSERVE

- ☞ Head out to your imagined snowflake or rain drop. Follow the path of the water and ask yourself/your student the same questions.
- ☞ To help visualize, you may use a stick or a leaf as a "boat" to see how the water is flowing.

SKETCH

- ☞ In a journal or on a piece of paper, make a map of what you've discovered where water is flowing. There is no one right way to make the map. Your map can include pictures, symbols, words, descriptions, arrows, questions, etc.
- ☞ Go to another location, observe how the water flow changes, and fill in your map. Repeat as many times as you choose!

SHOW US WHAT YOU MADE!

Show us your discoveries and the map that you create! Post it to Facebook with #BOLCwatermapping and see what other folks have found while exploring.