

# 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.