

Student Worksheet #1 WHERE HAS ALL THE RAINFALL GONE?

Instructions: Pour "rain" from the squeeze bottle along the top ridge of your mountain range. Notice the directions that the rain takes from the top of the mountain toward the valley below.

1. What force of nature is making the water travel down the sides of the mountains?
2. Does the "rain" reach the bottom of the mountain? (If not, you need more rain!)
3. In how many places does the "rain" actually touch the valley (the tub)?

Does it form a stream in the valley?

Does it go down both sides of the mountain ranges? Is there more than one stream in the tub?

4. The area that collects all the water flowing into a particular stream is called its "WATERSHED". How many different watersheds did you create in your tub?
5. Now prop one end of the tub up a few inches (put your toes underneath). Make it rain a little more and watch where the water flows.

Where does all the water end up?

Pretend that the collected water at the end of the tub is the ocean. Does the ocean have a watershed?

How many smaller watersheds drained into your ocean?