

Explore Your Watershed

Experiment #1



By Alice Ferguson Foundation and East Bay Regional Park District

- Supplies needed for both experiments:**
- spray bottle filled with water
 - pages 18-21 of this book ripped/cut out
 - Blue, red, black and brown **washable** markers
 - tape and extra paper optional

Scan the QR code for experiment directions in video form.

SCAN ME



Step 1. Clear off your work area as things will get a little wet, or do the experiment outside.

Step 2. Crumple page 18 of this book and smooth it back out slightly. It should still be a bit crumpled, showing small ridges (high points) and valleys (low points).

Step 3. Imagine that this paper is a section of land, and find the ridgelines (the tops of the fold-lines).

Step 4. Use a washable blue marker (not permanent) to color along the ridgelines on your "land." (we'll be skipping the step of taping the paper to a blank sheet of paper as seen in the video but you can do that step if you have the supplies.)

You are going to "rain" on your landform with the spray bottle. Answer the following questions to make your hypotheses before conducting the experiment.

1. What do you think will happen to your land when it "rains"?

2. What will happen to the blue ridgelines you colored?

3. Where will the "rainwater" travel?

Now make it rain!

Step 5. Use a spray bottle of water to create a "rainstorm" over your land. You want to create gentle sprays of mist.

Step 6. Observe what happens after every misting.

Step 7. As your "rainfall" accumulates, observe the pathways where the excess "rainfall" travels.