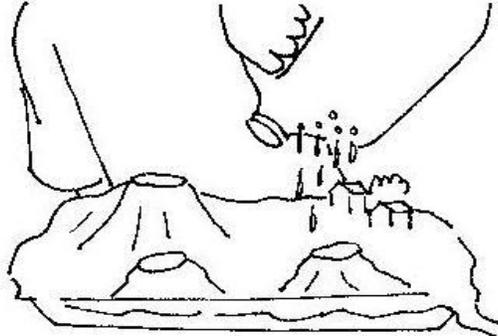


# EROSION ACTIVITY

## BUILD A WATERSHED

Watch soil **erode** in a **watershed** when it rains.



You Will Need:	paper cups	scissors	clay	gallon of water
	a plastic water jug or milk carton		rectangular pan	
	a quart container of loose soil		aluminum foil	
Instructions:	<p>Cut the paper cups different heights. Place cups upside down in the pan to represent hills. Cut a large piece of aluminum foil and lay it over the cups, pressing the foil around cups to make rises and dips in your <b>watershed</b>. Crimp aluminum foil tightly over the pan. Mold several trees with the clay and place them near to each other in one section of the watershed to represent a forest. and place on your watershed. Press soil into the clay around the base of the trees. This will show how the roots of trees hold onto soil. SLIGHTLY dampen the soil with water, press patties of soil over the hill tops. Punch 5 small holes in the upper corner of the jug. Fill the jug with water and tilt it to make it "rain" on your watershed. Notice how the water moves through the watershed. Watch how water sticks, pulls, and dissolves the soil as it moved it through the watershed.</p>			

### Think About It!

Answer these questions on a separate sheet of paper.

How many watersheds are there in your model? Where is the dividing line between watersheds? Observe how the draining water affects the soil. Can you see how draining water can form streams? Has the soil moved? If so, where has it moved to? How has the **eroding** soil changed your watershed?

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