

HOW DO RIVERS FORM?

Objectives:

Children will know: Children will learn how rivers form.

Children will do: Children will show how rivers flow down a mountain.

Essential Questions:

- Why do rivers form?
- How do rivers shape the earth?

Standards:

L10. Follows directions.

PSH6: Engages in play as a means of self-expression and creativity.

L20. Uses a variety of writing or art tools.

SSC1. Draws and constructs.



Materials:

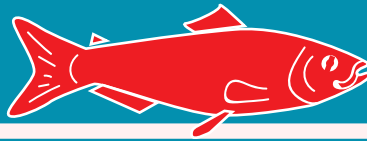
- Paper
- Tape
- Markers
- Spray bottle (Rock Kit)

Promoting Culture Self Assessment:

- 1. I display pictures, posters and other materials that reflect the cultures and ethnic backgrounds of children and families served in my early childhood program or setting.
- 6. I encourage and provide opportunities and experiences for children that support Alaska Native culture.

Alaska Native Values:

Respectful of subsistence lifestyle, Learning by doing, Respect for the environment,



Engage

“Have you ever looked at a river from above? They’re very squiggly! According to Alutiiq legend, the first woman formed lakes and rivers by spitting into ditches and holes. How do you think rivers are formed? Let’s try a fun activity and see for ourselves.

Explore:



Activity: 15 Minutes

See picture on first page for reference.

Give each child two pieces of paper. Have them lay one piece of paper flat on the table. Have each student crumple the other piece of paper and then uncrumple it. These will be the mountains. Help students tape their mountains to the flat piece of paper. Make sure that the mountains stick up enough for water to run down. Have students use markers to color the very top of their mountains. Make sure they use a lot of ink. When they are finished, have them use the spray bottles. Make sure they spray the ink really well with water. Let them sit for a couple of minutes. You’ll begin to notice the ink flowing down the paper mountains. Point this out to students as it begins to happen.

Explain:

“Did you notice the color running down the mountains with the water? That is the beginning of a river. Rivers shape the earth with the water that runs through them. Where do you think the water comes from? Water can come from rain, snow, or springs high up in the mountains, like the activity we just did. Over a long time, these rivers can shape the earth, even shaping rock by wearing it down over time. Have you ever noticed how smooth rocks are by rivers, that is from the water running over them for many years. Rivers are special places, and are always changing. They are full of life and are big parts of our lives. Can anyone share a story about what makes rivers special to them?”

Center Set Up:

Whole Group:

Display essential questions. Display a pre-made river activity and spray bottle. Encourage students to spray your mountains.

Art Center: Have students use markers to color an entire piece of paper. Spray the paper with water and see how the water effects the colors.

EVALUATION

Emerging:

Student does not participate.

Developing:

Student participates in discussion.

Proficient:

Student participates in discussion and activity.

Advanced:

Student participates in discussion, engages in activity and shares a story.

