

# Water Travel Detectives

Students observe moving water, record particle motion, and describe what changed.

**1.10.B** "investigate and describe how water can move rock and soil particles from one place to another;"

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: this page is run aloud. The script and answers are on the guide page.

## 1 LISTEN CIRCLE \_\_\_\_\_

|   |       |       |       |
|---|-------|-------|-------|
| a | SOIL  | ROCK  | BOTH  |
| b | UP    | DOWN  | STILL |
| c | MOVES | STAYS | GROWS |

## 2 DRAW LINES \_\_\_\_\_

|        |   |   |         |
|--------|---|---|---------|
| RAIN   | • | • | CHANNEL |
| STREAM | • | • | SHORE   |
| WAVES  | • | • | HILL    |

**HOW TO RUN THIS PAGE**

Before the clue practice, run an observed water investigation. In a waterproof tray, raise one end of a shallow plastic channel slightly. Place a small mound of clean damp sand (tiny rock particles) and a pinch of clean soil at the raised end; mark its starting place. Have children observe and record **BEFORE**. Slowly pour a small cup of water just above the mound, keeping all runoff inside the tray. Children watch for particles carried downslope and settling lower down, then record **AFTER** and describe where they went. An adult handles pouring; no tasting, splashing or dust. Wash hands afterward. Read all printed directions aloud. If movement is not visible, repeat with a gentler slope adjustment and report what actually happened rather than supply an invented result. Give each child an extra sheet folded into two spaces labeled **BEFORE** and **AFTER**; accept child drawings or adult scribing. Read this observation prompt aloud: Before the water runs, draw or tell me where the soil and sand are. Now watch the water I pour. Draw or tell me what changed and where the particles ended up. Point out evidence, then tell me how the water moved particles.

Students never read directions on this sheet. Read each part's script aloud, then each prompt, giving think time before students mark.

**PART 1 • LISTEN CIRCLE**

**SAY** "Listen to each water-travel clue. I will read the choices, then circle the word that best answers each question."

| ROW | SAY                                                                                                                                                        | STUDENTS CIRCLE |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| a   | The choices are soil, rock, and both. A fast stream carries tiny bits of soil and a small pebble to a new place. Which word tells what the stream carries? | <b>BOTH</b>     |
| b   | The choices are up, down, and still. Rainwater runs down a hill and takes soil with it. Which word tells where the soil goes?                              | <b>DOWN</b>     |
| c   | The choices are moves, stays, and grows. Water pushes a rock from one place to another. Which word tells what happens to the rock?                         | <b>MOVES</b>    |

**PART 2 • DRAW LINES**

**SAY** "Listen to these three water-travel clues. Rainwater washed soil down a hill, a stream carried a pebble through a channel, and waves pushed sand onto a shore. Draw a line from each water word to its place word."

- **RAIN** matches **HILL**
- **STREAM** matches **CHANNEL**
- **WAVES** matches **SHORE**

### **WHAT TO ACCEPT**

Circle BOTH, DOWN, and MOVES. Match RAIN to HILL, STREAM to CHANNEL, and WAVES to SHORE. Require the actual observed pour and BEFORE/AFTER drawings or adult-recorded descriptions, plus the child's explanation linked to observed locations. Sand is made of small rock particles. Do not require every pebble to move or accept the clue answers alone as the investigation. BEFORE: Starting mound at the raised end, with its location indicated by a drawing or adult-recorded oral description. AFTER: Observed particle locations after the pour, with a direction/location description supported by the actual tray. Typical: some soil/sand washed lower down and settled there; accept accurate actual observations.