

Where Rain Goes

Trace how water moves through a watershed.

4.8.a "watersheds and water;"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each phrase that tells where water moves, and circle the words that name the land area or boundary that guides that movement.

A Drop's Journey

- ① After rain falls on Pine Ridge, some water soaks into the ground. The rest moves downhill across lawns, sidewalks, and soil. It gathers in small puddles and trickles into a ditch. The ditch carries the water to Cedar Creek. All the land where rain and melting snow drain toward Cedar Creek is called its watershed.
- ② A watershed has high land around it. This higher ground is often called a divide because it separates one watershed from another. A drop of water falling on one side of a divide may reach Cedar Creek. A drop on the other side can flow to a different creek. Water follows the slope, pulled downhill by gravity.
- ③ What happens on land can affect water in the whole watershed. During a storm, loose soil, pet waste, fertilizer, or oil can wash into storm drains and then into Cedar Creek. Plants along a stream slow moving water and help hold soil in place. Picking up litter and using fewer harmful chemicals can help keep watershed water cleaner.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What is the watershed of Cedar Creek?

2 How can a divide send two drops of water to different places?

3 Name two things that can wash into storm drains during a storm.

4 How do plants along a stream help protect watershed water?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Imagine rain falling on Maple Hill. Write exactly two sentences that explain where the water travels in your invented watershed and name one action people can take to keep it clean.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each phrase that tells where water moves, and circle the words that name the land area or boundary that guides that movement. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the watershed of Cedar Creek?	All the land where rain and melting snow drain toward Cedar Creek.
2	How can a divide send two drops of water to different places?	A drop falling on one side may flow to Cedar Creek, while a drop on the other side may flow to a different creek.
3	Name two things that can wash into storm drains during a storm.	Any two: loose soil, pet waste, fertilizer, or oil.
4	How do plants along a stream help protect watershed water?	They slow moving water and help hold soil in place.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Rain on Maple Hill runs down a grassy slope into Bluebird Stream, which carries it to Willow Pond. Neighbors can pick up pet waste so it does not wash into the stream.

Accept equivalent descriptions of water moving downhill from land to a creek, stream, pond, or other shared water body. For Part 3, accept any realistic route through a watershed and one reasonable action that reduces pollution.