



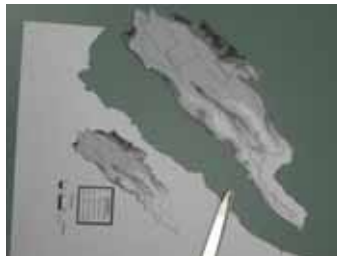
Potomac River Watershed 3-D Model Instructions

Instructions

Carefully read and follow the instructions below to create a three-dimensional map of the Potomac River watershed.

In Your Group:

1. Start by carefully cutting out the larger sub-watershed map from your handout. This will serve as the template for your model. The smaller picture of the watershed is for your reference as you assemble the model.



2. Place your template map on top of a piece of foam board, trace around it, and then cut out the foam board. This will be the base of your sub-watershed model, identifying its areas of the lowest elevation.



3. Now, remove all of the white areas (representing the lowest elevation) identified on the map by cutting them out of your template. When finished, you should have a template for the next higher elevation level. Trace this shape onto a new piece of foam board and cut it out.





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4. Arrange the new level onto the base level of your sub-watershed and glue it down. Refer to your smaller map to determine where to place this second level.



5. Now, repeat steps three and four for all elevation levels of your sub-watershed. Each time, you should cut out a darker area of the map (represented by a larger number) and trace the new level, so that you build your model to higher and higher elevations. Refer to the smaller sub-watershed map on your original handout to be sure you place each level of elevation in the correct place. Once you have cut and glued all levels, you will be able to visualize the watershed in three dimensions, clearly seeing valleys, slopes, peaks, and low-lying areas.





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As A Class:

1. With the rest of your class, fit your sub-watershed maps together (like a puzzle) on a presentation board or large piece of cardboard. If you have trouble, use the Potomac River watershed locator maps to determine how all of the sub-watersheds fit together. You may need to carefully trim bits here and there to make the sub-watersheds line up as tightly as possible. Once you have them positioned correctly, glue the sub-watersheds down onto your board.
2. You can now decorate your 3-D map to represent the physiographic regions that you have been learning about. Cover the map with clay, paper mâché, or other materials to fill in the transition between layers and smooth out the topography. Get creative in decorating each of the different physiographic regions, for example, by building hills in the Valley and Ridge region.
3. Using the small template maps as a guide, carefully trace on your 3-D map where the rivers and streams in each sub-watershed flow. Mark these waterways using a blue marker or paint, or by gluing down blue yarn or string.
4. To identify where you are right now within the Potomac River watershed, glue or paint a star on the map at the location of your school.



5. Keep your watershed model in an area where you can refer to it as you learn more about the Potomac River watershed.