# Identifying Qualities of Healthy NC Water Resources

## Inquiry

**What’s the difference between a mountain stream and a coastal stream?**

**How do land features impact stream shapes?**

**What are some features of your neighborhood streams?**

**How does surrounding land use impact a stream?**

**How does a river support a balanced ecosystem?**

## Supplemental Videos:

**Video: https://www.ncpedia.org/geography/region/coastal-plain**

**Video:** [**https://www.ncpedia.org/geography/region/piedmont**](https://www.ncpedia.org/geography/region/piedmont)

**Video:** [**https://www.ncpedia.org/our-state-geography-snap-mountain**](https://www.ncpedia.org/our-state-geography-snap-mountain)

## Activity 1

Materials:

* **Internet Access**
* **Student Paced Lesson:** [**https://share.nearpod.com/vsph/fJKwH2DMMu**](https://share.nearpod.com/vsph/fJKwH2DMMu) **(Expires September 30, 2020)**

1. Read the student paced lesson about NC Rivers: <https://share.nearpod.com/vsph/fJKwH2DMMu>
2. Complete the activities throughout the lesson with your thoughts and ideas.
3. Complete the Student Copy Page: NC Water Resources Review

Optional Assignments:

1. Write a story about your nearby stream. Try to use the following words in your description:

Mountain, Valley, River, Lake, Erosion

2. Record a video to describe a stream in your community. Tell us about it’s features, water quantity, water flow.

3) Create a dance to demonstrate how the water flows down the stream. Record a video of your dance and share it with your teacher!

4. Complete the Student Copy Sheet: NC Water Resources Review

**Student Copy Sheet: NC Water Resources Review**

**Do your best to answer these questions:**

1. **What do the terms River Basin, Drainage, and Watershed all have in common?**

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1. **A *watershed* is an area of land that drains water into a river.** 
   1. **Natural Features: Describe a watershed’s landforms. Are there any mountains? Lakes? Valleys? How do these impact the flow of water?**

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* 1. **Manmade Features: Describe any houses, farms, or roads that are in a watershed. How do these features impact the flow of water?**

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1. **In the lesson, we talked about 3 regions of NC: Mountains, Piedmont, and Coast. Which region is known for having excessive sediment in their streams? What is this caused by?**

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1. **If you were an animal that depended on your river to find food and water, where would you want to live? How might the flow of the water impact an animal’s needs? How might the quality of the water impact an animal’s needs?**

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**NC Standard Course of Study Standards Addressed:**

6.L.2.3: Summarize how the abiotic factors (suchas temperature, water, sunlight, and soil quality) of biomes (freshwater, marine, forest, grasslands, desert, Tundra) affect the ability of organisms to grow, survive and/or create their own food through photosynthesis.

8.E.1.1Explain the structure of the hydrosphere including:•Water distribution on earth•Local river basins and water availability

8.E.1.3Predict the safety and potability of water supplies in North Carolina based on physical and biological factors, including:•Temperature•Dissolved oxygen•pH•Nitrates and phosphates•Turbidity •Bio-indicators