

Watersheds and Rivers

Watershed Also called a drainage basin.

All of the land that water flows over or through before reaching a lake or river.

Water is precipitation such as rain, snow, sleet, or hail.

A small amount of precipitation evaporates and moves back into the atmosphere and some water enters the ground.

Watershed

The rest is runoff.

The watershed acts as a **funnel** that collects and distributes water, and it is then channeled into a waterway.

Each basin is sectioned by a **water divide** such as a ridge, hill, or mountain.

Water from streams flows downward and meets with other water flows, gaining enough volume to →

Watershed become creeks and rivers.

How landforms are formed by water:

Valley V-shaped valleys are formed by the effects of running water.

Canyons Formed by erosion and weathering of soft rock caused by the movement of water in rivers.

Delta Form from the deposition of the sediment carried by the river as the →

Water flow leaves the mouth of the river. Shaped like a fan.

The Ocean Shore Zone

Important Vocabulary!

wave



the repeated movement of water.

currents

flowing streams of water that move continually through the ocean in a specific direction.

tides

the regular rise and fall of the waters in the ocean. There are



tides

2 high tides
and 2 low
tides a day.
Tides are caused
by the pull of
the Moon's gravity
on Earth.

The Ocean
Shore Zone

The area
where the
ocean meets
the land.

Beaches

Shorelines made
of sand are
called beaches.

Some shorelines
are rocky.

Shorelines are
always changing
because of wind
and water.

Beaches

Currents tides,
and storms
all move sand
along the shore.

Barrier
Islands

Islands with
sandy beaches.

Islands are land
surrounded by
water.

They are natural
and protect the
mainland from
the effects of
waves on its
shore.

Currents can
move the sand
from one end
of the island
to the other.

Estuaries The area where a river meets the ocean.

All rivers flow into the oceans

Estuaries have a mix of freshwater and saltwater.

They are important to ocean life because at high tide, the water brings in sediment that feeds the animals.

Inlets The water-filled spaces between the barrier islands.



Inlets

Ocean currents and storms can change the shape of an inlet opening.

Conservation and Pollution

Natural Resources

Materials that people can take or use from Earth.

Includes air, water, trees, rocks and minerals, soil, coal and oil.

Conservation The wise use of natural resources. Any human activities that help the Earth and clear pollution.



The 3 R's

Some efforts involve everyone trying to:

- reduce (use less of something)
- reuse (use something over again) and
- recycle (make something new from an old product).

Conservation Efforts - clean-up projects
- adding fences
- jetties
- restore sand on beaches.
- planting trees

Fossil Fuels Non-renewable resources such as coal oil and natural gas. 42

Pollution Anything that harms the natural environment

This includes the using of natural resources.

Polluted rivers flow into oceans, polluting them as well.

Examples of Pollution - Careless dumping of trash on land and oceans.

- Smoke and fumes from burning fuels.

- Oil Spills