

WHERE IS YOUR WATERSHED?

Everyone lives in a **watershed**. Every local watershed is part of a larger watershed. Walk around the ground of your school or neighborhood and try to identify where the rainwater drains. Using a detailed local map, **topographical**, or raised relief map, find your location. On the map, try to find the larger watershed of which your local watershed is a part. Are there smaller watersheds in your watershed? Can you identify the surface water bodies in your watershed?

Using a county or state map, or google maps or the like, follow the flow of the water from your watershed to the Gulf of Mexico. Will water from your watershed have much effect on water quality in the Gulf? Why or why not?

Here are some fun web sites to locate your watershed and learn more about topographical maps:

FIND YOUR TOPOGRAPHICAL MAP

<http://water.usgs.gov/wsc/>

USGS SCIENCE RESOURCES FOR PRIMARY GRADES

Geography Map Studies

<http://education.usgs.gov/common/primary.htm>

PLAY TOPO BINGO!

<http://cmase.uark.edu/teacher/workshops/AIMS-lessons/Topo.Bingo.cards.pdf>

This activity provided by special permission from The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality. To learn more about the Watershed Harmony Environmental Puppet Theater or Study Guide, please visit www.bayoutown.com.