

E-Sheet Introduction to Floods

Directions

In order to complete the following you will need to have access to the Internet. Follow the Internet links to the articles; read the articles and answer the questions in the space provided.

Vocabulary terms that you will become familiar with through these activities: **flash flood, river flood, river bed, flood plain, levee, oxbow lakes, ripple marks, cataracts, coulee, and bar.**

Flooding: Why, When and Where?

Investigate the following website on flooding. Answer the questions below as you progress through the reading.

Websites

- The Science of Flooding
<http://www.pbs.org/newshour/infocus/floods/science.html>

Questions

1. List five reasons for flooding.
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2. Describe the two types of floods.
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3. Why is flash flooding so dangerous?
4. How often can a 100-year flood occur?
5. Why might an urban area be more affected by heavy rainfall than a rural area?

6. How are wetlands useful for preventing floods?

7. What is the best defense against flooding?

Additional questions:

1. Which type of flooding is most likely to affect your community?

2. What types of flood control measures are in place along the rivers near where you live?

Floods of Different Sizes

Read the following articles about floods of very different sizes. When you complete the reading, define each of the following words with a description and then answer the questions below.

Websites

- Floods
<http://www.pbs.org/ktca/newtons/12/floods.html>
- The Missoula Floods
<http://www.opb.org/ofg/1001/missoula/index.htm>
- Glossary of Physical Geology
<http://www.geog.ouc.bc.ca/physgeog/physgeoglos/glossary.html>

Define the following vocabulary words:

Riverbed

Flood plain

Levees

