



# HANDS-ON EXPERIMENTS

SEDIMENTATION

Sediment is the name we give the material on the bottom of a river, that can potentially be carried by the river. It varies in size and comes in Soluble (within the water) and Insoluble (carried by the water) forms.

The amount of sedimentation carried largely depends on the speed of the river, and the speed of the river can be governed by a large range of phenomena including gradient, width and rainfall.



## The Experiment

What you'll need: Graduated Cylinder (or other long clear tube), Water, Jug of sediment (of varying sizes)

1

Empty all of your sediment from your various sources into one jug;

2

Next, fill the Graduated Cylinder to three quarters full;

3

Empty the sediment into the graduated cylinder paying close attention to settling rates.

## Further Investigation

- How about recording the settling rates of the different size of sediment. Is it the courser (bigger) or finer (smaller) grains that settle first?
- Try even bigger bits of sediment. Big rivers can move big rocks!
- If you put more of the finer sediment in, what happens to the clarity (clearness) of the water? Do you think that faster or slower moving rivers will have more finer sediment in it?
- Why do you think some rivers look brown, and some rivers are clear?

# VIDEOS FOR THIS RESOURCE AT:

INTRODUCTION:



Clickable Link:

<https://youtu.be/C8kqSmRXFk8>

CONCLUSION:



Clickable Link:

<https://youtu.be/DddeqVJq6KE>

