



HANDS-ON EXPERIMENTS

WETLANDS

Wetlands are an essential part of our environment. When it rains, they absorb rain water and store it below the surface creating the wetland environment. However, with too much rain water the wetlands can become too saturated and the water seeps through to add to the water table.

Wetlands also help control sediments in surface run off water which acts like a filter, filtering out inorganic nutrients and organic waste improving water quality and controls flooding.



The Experiment

What you'll need: A 2 litre bottle, a 500ml bottle of clean water, a 500ml bottle of water with soil and silt in it, a Sponge, Scissors.

1

Cut the top off your 2 litre bottle and overturn it back into the original bottle

2

Cut a part of the sponge out in to a circle that will fit in to the bottle;

3

Pour the clean water through the sponge, taking note of how much water the sponge can hold before it starts seeping through;

4

Ring the sponge out and pour the dirty water through the sponge, seeing how much silt and soil is captured in the Wetlands

Further Investigation

- Try adding a layer of paper to the top of the wetlands simulation to act as buildings, what happens to the rate at which the water flows into the wetlands? Does more flooding occur? Building on land changes the way water gets through into the soil and down in to the water table potentially creating more flooding.
- Attempt to pour the water in to the bottle in faster and slower rates. Does it make any difference?

VIDEOS FOR THIS RESOURCE AT:

INTRODUCTION:



Clickable Link:

https://youtu.be/_LataoBUclc

CONCLUSION:



Clickable Link:

<https://youtu.be/fOWfk4GruCA>

