

Watershed

Exploring Your Watershed Map – Humboldt River Watershed

Estimated Time: 30 minutes

Age range: 5th grade

What you need: this activity guide or a piece of paper, a map of your watershed, a pencil

New Words

Watershed- where water flows and is stored

Observe- to look at something closely

In this activity, we are going to take a closer look at the watershed you live in. Do you remember what a watershed is? *A watershed is where water flows and is stored.*

Can you think of any flowing or stored water near you? Write or draw examples of flowing and stored water you've seen in your neighborhood or city:

There may be rivers, lakes, ponds, melting snow, or flowing rain near your home. No matter where you live, you live in a watershed. Where the water around you flows and is stored determines (tells) which watershed you live in. If you live around or near the Humboldt River, you live in the **Humboldt River Watershed**.

Observe the map of the **Humboldt River Watershed** to answer the questions below.



1) Find a place that you know or have visited. Draw a **circle** around it.




2) Find where you live, or the closest place to it on the map. Draw a **square** around it.



3) Find a **river** that runs through or near Battle Mountain. Draw a **star** near it. Write the name of the river here: _____

4) The Humboldt River gets its water from the Ruby Mountains, Jarbidge Mountains, and Independence Mountains. The water goes from the mountains to the river through streams. Find the **streams** on your map. **Underline** the names.

Remember that water always flows from **high places** to **low places**. If it were to rain on your watershed, the water would hit the mountain ranges at the top of the streams that you underlined, and the water would flow down the mountains to join the creeks and rivers.

- 5) Find the **Wells** on your map. The river starts up in the **Humboldt Wells Spring**, and the water flows down toward Elko. Draw an **arrow** next to **Wells** to show which way the water is flowing.

- 6) The **Humboldt River** flows into the **Rye Patch Reservoir** before it reaches the end of the watershed. Find the **Rye Patch Reservoir** and write "**flows through**" next to it.
- 7) Follow the Humboldt River all the way to its end. Where does most of the water end up? Write "**END**" there on your map, and record your answer here:



Reflection Questions:

1. How do watersheds get their water?

2. How does water get from the high point to the low point in a watershed? Why does water move in that way?
