

## Watershed

### Exploring Your Watershed Map – Las Vegas Valley Watershed

**Estimated Time:** 30 minutes

**Age range:** 5<sup>th</sup> 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 know 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:

Write:

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Or Draw:

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 which watershed you live in. If you live in or near Las Vegas, you live in the Las Vegas Valley Watershed.


**Observe** the map of the **Las Vegas Valley Watershed** to answer the questions below.

- 1) Find a place that you know or have visited. Draw a  **circle** around it.
- 2) Find Las Vegas. It has a red  **square** around it.
- 3) Find a river (wash) that runs through or near Las Vegas. Draw a  **star** near it. Write the name of the river (wash) here: \_\_\_\_\_

- 4) Find the mountain on your map. Underline its' name. Write its' name below:

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Remember that water always flows from **high places** to **low places**. If it were to rain on your watershed, the water would hit the mountains, and the water would flow down the mountains to join the creeks, rivers, and washes.

- 5) Find the Flamingo/Tropicana Wash on your map. It starts up in the **Spring Mountains Range**, and the water flows down toward Las Vegas. Draw an **arrow** next to the Flamingo/Tropicana Wash to show which way the water is flowing. 
- 6) The Flamingo/Tropicana Wash flows into the Las Vegas Wash before it reaches the end of the watershed. Find the Las Vegas Wash and write "flows through" next to it.
- 7) Follow the Las Vegas Wash 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:

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