

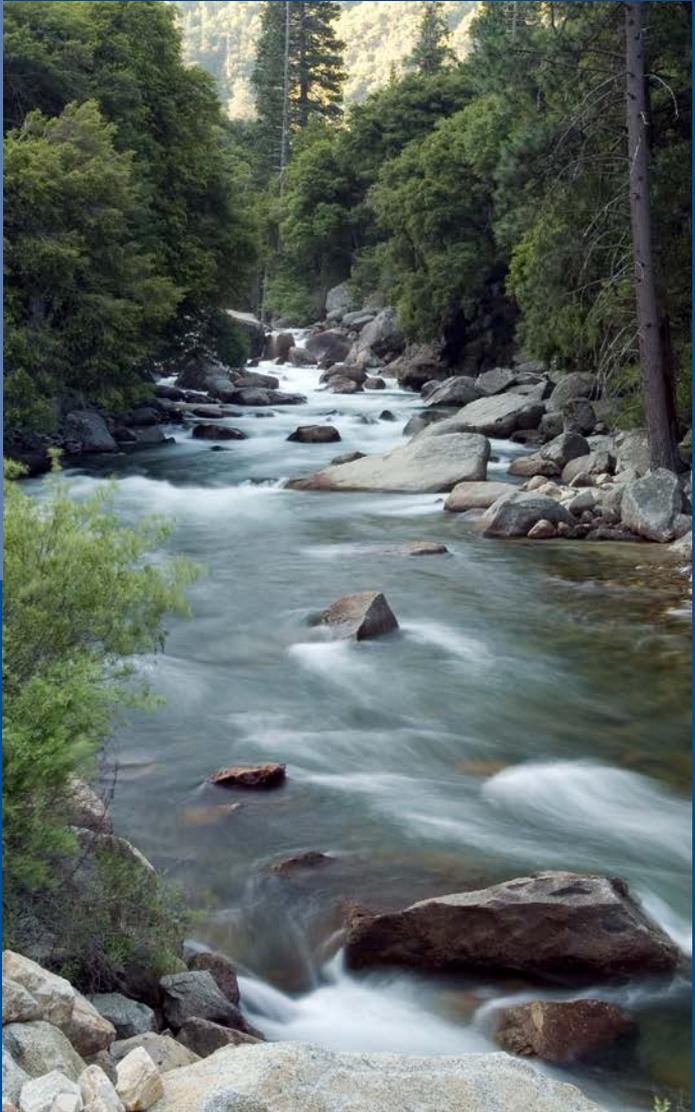
6

Science Standard
6.2.b.



Dictionary

California Education and the Environment Initiative



The Dynamic Nature of Rivers

Dictionary

A

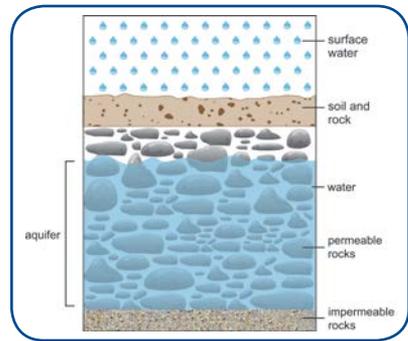
aqueduct

A structure used to move water from one place to another.



aquifer

An underground layer of rock or sediment that holds usable amounts of groundwater.



B

barrier

A structure designed to prevent access or to separate things.





bay

A body of water set off from a larger water body.



benefit

(noun) An improvement or advantage.

(verb) To do good or to give aid.



channel

The bed of a stream, a river, or another waterway.



delta

A large, usually triangle-shaped area at the mouth of a river that gradually builds up as the river deposits sediments.



deposition

The depositing or settling of rock or soil from one place in another.



E

erode

To wear away.





erosion

The moving of rock and soil from place to place by wind, water, or ice.



estuary

The lower end of a river as it empties into a bay or the ocean and mixes with salt water.



fertile (land)

Land with nutrient-rich soils that produce abundant plant growth.

flood

The overflow of water onto dry land.



flood cycle

The periodic seasonal pattern of flooding in a river system.



floodplain

A flat area along a river that floods when water flows outside of a river's banks.





flow

The movement of a material, such as water.



headwaters

The springs or small streams that supply water where a river first starts.



hydroelectricity

Electricity produced by water power, typically when running water is used to turn a generator.



I

irrigation

A system that provides water to land through pipes, artificial channels, or other methods.



J

jetty

A structure that runs perpendicular to the shoreline, built by humans to influence currents and protect harbors and coastal areas.



L

landscape

The natural features of an area of land, such as trees and hills.





meander

A winding section of a river or stream.



oxbow lake

A bow-shaped lake formed in an old channel as a river changes its path over a long time.



riparian

Related to or located along the banks of a river or other waterway.

S

sediment

Stones, sand, and soil carried by water, wind, or glaciers.



sedimentation

The settling of sand, rocks, or other material carried by water, wind, or ice.



slough

A swamp or marsh formed by backwater of a larger waterway, full of soft, muddy ground.





streambed

The channel through which a stream runs or previously ran.



suspension

A liquid with solid particles that are mixed throughout it.



tributary

A small river or stream that flows into a larger one.



W

watershed

The land area that drains water into a particular body of water, such as a stream, river, lake, or ocean.



Unit Title: **The Dynamic Nature of Rivers**

Grade: **6**

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