

WALT understand how water travels to rivers.

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WILF:

- Understand what watershed means*
- Understand the role of mountain ranges in the water cycle*
- Explain how water reaches rivers.*





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97% of water on Earth is in Oceans.

The remaining 3% is fresh water, which is found in frozen ice sheets, ice caps, glaciers, underground in porous rocks or groundwater.

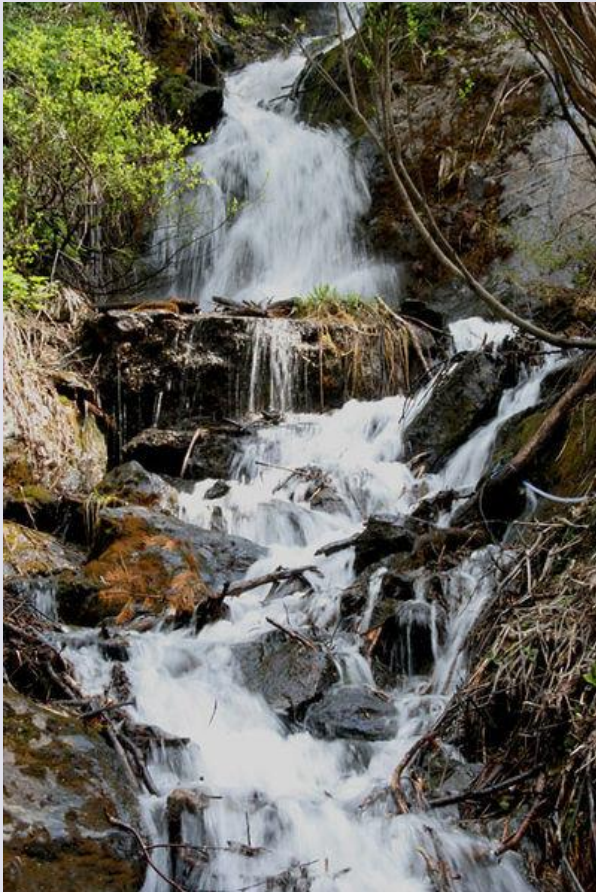
Only 0.011% of all water is freshwater in lakes or rivers.

However small the percentage, they have a large effect on our planet's landscape!

How do you think water reaches rivers?

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A stream at Fual Pani I ©
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Wellesley College, Leica M8 and
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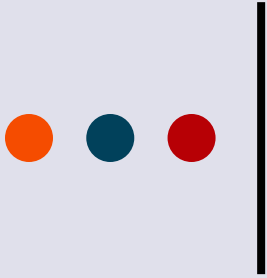


Humber Bridge © Alex
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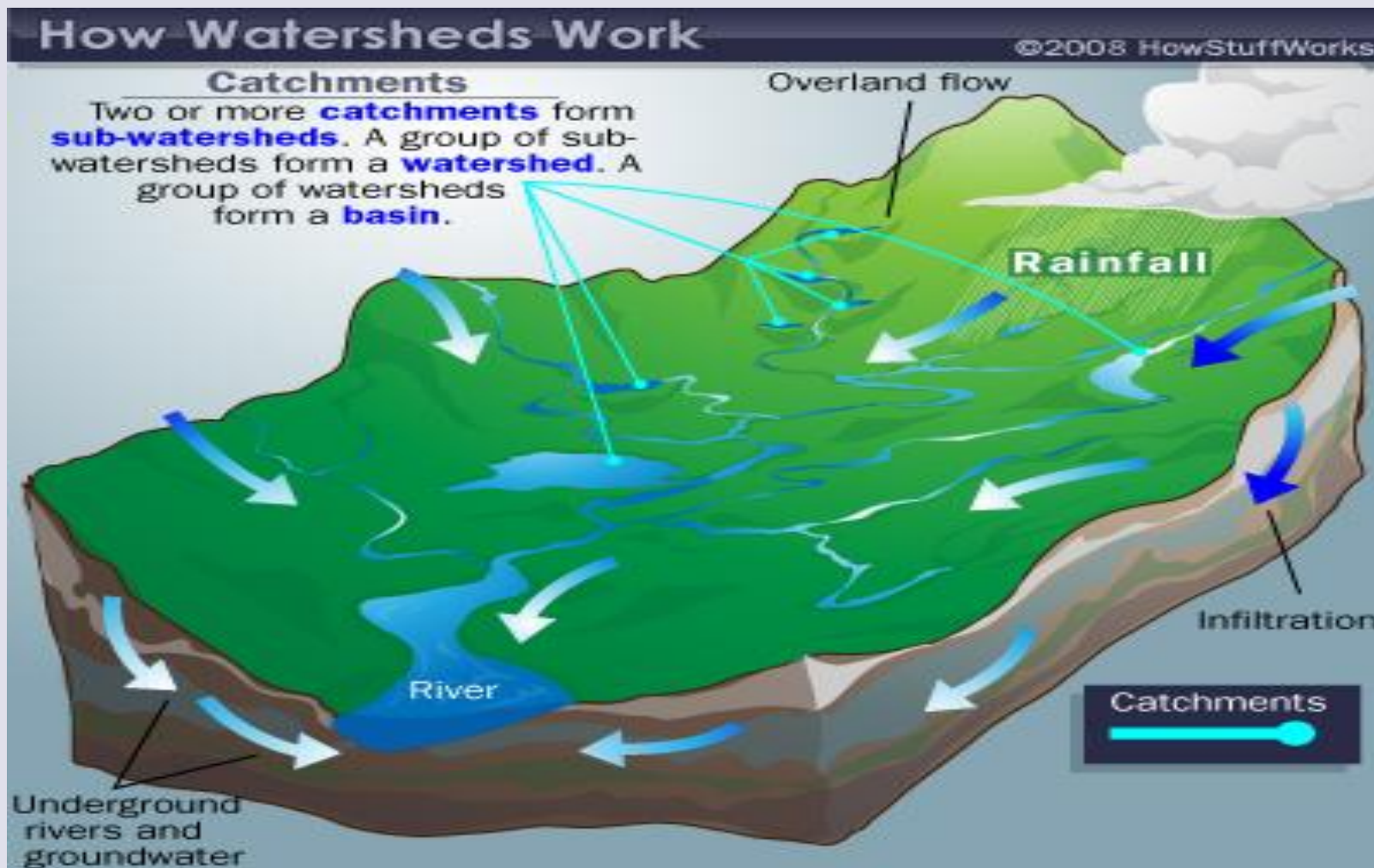


A **river** forms from **water** moving from a higher ground to a lower ground, all due to gravity. When rain falls on the land, it either seeps into the ground or becomes runoff, which flows downhill into rivers and lakes, on its journey towards the seas.

Most of the water you see flowing in rivers comes from precipitation runoff from the land surface alongside the river. Of course, not all runoff ends up in rivers. Some of it evaporates on the journey downslope, can be diverted and used by people for their uses, and can even be lapped up by thirsty animals.



Rivers flow through valleys in the landscape with ridges of higher land separating the valleys. The area of land between ridges that collects precipitation is a watershed. Most, but not all, precipitation that falls in a watershed runs off directly into rivers - part of it soaks into the ground to recharge groundwater aquifers (underground rivers), some of which can then seep back into riverbeds.



Today you have a choice of two activities:

Create your own watershed model with labels.

OR

Write short diary entry snippets as a raindrop on its journey to the river from a watershed, including each stage.

Please use as much scientific vocabulary as you can.

E.g: precipitation, run off, watershed, drains, separates, river, lake, basin, downhill, gravity, aquifer.

There is a diagram of watershed to help you with this ' Week 2. Monday. Geography Watershed Information'

