



Extension Snapshot Teaching Stream Basics



University of Illinois Extension has a long history of providing youth education, including the facilitation of outdoor learning events in the fall and spring for schools. We realize that many schools have had to cut back on field trips due to budget constraints. Because of these constraints, this Extension unit offers activities to individual schools.

The Stream Model has been used for several years to show students basic hydrology, such as how rivers form, formation of deltas, formation of horseshoe lakes, groundwater and wells, and how people use rivers, including the use of levees for flood control. It provides a very visual representation of rivers, and is a great aid to textbook material. It is ideal for grades 3-6, but has been used for all ages.

There is no cost to schools.

This fall, the stream table was requested by schools in Morgan and Greene Counties, and was seen by approximately 250 students. Over the past 15 years of its use, the stream table has helped over 30,000 students learn basic hydrologic principles.

If teachers or others would like additional information on this topic before having the Stream Model at school, we have a website called the All Star River Explorers that they may peruse at <http://urbanext.illinois.edu/rivers/>.

For more information, contact Duane Friend at friend@illinois.edu or call 217/243-7424