

MODULE 4 – CLAY WATERSHED MODELS/ SALMON HABITAT MODELS

MATERIAL LIST AND BASIC INSTRUCTIONS (CLASS HOW-TO VIDEO ON HUB):

Order kits, one per student*, and arrange delivery. (or collect materials on own)

***WHAT IS IN EACH KIT:**

Flour Clay-Dough. (Recipes on Virtual Hub.) – brown, green, blue

Air-Dry Clay

Base for Model

Pebbles and small rocks, sand

Lichen and twigs for “trees” and logs.

Animal, Fish models (purchased or made)

Clay tools – toothpick, popsicle stick

Paint brush, water cup, paper, pencil

Optional, make your own kits, using kit info above:

- 1) Teacher or students can make up flour clay-doughs as a class activity
- 2) Students can collect their own pretty pebbles, small rocks, 2 inch driftwood, moss, lichen, twigs...
- 3) Students can use air-dry clay to make animals and fish for their models

INSTRUCTIONS:

@Teacher can show How-to Video to students and all can follow along. Or can request Outdoor Classroom Visit.

- 1) Review salmon/steelhead cycle & water cycle....all water runs downhill and takes the path of least resistance. Therefore, when you are creating your creek or river, make sure it does not flow uphill.
- 2) Each student gets a kit and a base for Model. Set aside.
- 3) **Optional/Suggested:** Each student gets a piece of drawing paper and pencil.
- 4) **Optional/Suggested:** Draw a sketch of a place on the creek where Fish might come to spawn. (think: what does the fish need? Clean, cool, moving water. Gravel. Shade.) Think of a favorite place you love at the river/creek and use that as a guide.

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- 5) **LIMESTONE/HARDPAN/EARTH “BONES”/CRUST:** Spread thin layer of white clay over entire base. (Use clay techniques from Virtual Hub downloads) Roll in hands, stretch out, flatten out...warm up to make usable. This represents the hardpan/earth crust under the soil.
- 6) **RIVER PLAN:** Use clay tool (sharpened popsicle) to mark a long “S” where River/Creek goes. Press down to shape river. Pinch up clay along river bank.
- 7) **RIVER:** Build your river first, using water color clay (or you can paint white clay), create a snaking river (not a straight one) Push a few pebbles and a “boulder” or two into the river (clay). Option: Flatten out a small pool area along a bank.
- 8) **RIVER BANKS:** Use brown or green clay. Make “snakes” and place next to river. These are the riverbanks. Smush in a little (must be higher than water). Make a sand beach for fun, if you want to.
- 9) **HILLS/TERRAIN:** Add green and brown clay to make a hill or mountain or meadow. Shape until you are pleased with it, using fingers.

#LANDSCAPE: Add beach (sand), pebbles, trees. Maybe a log across the river. Don't over-clutter. Less is more.

#HABITAT: Add your fish and animal(s).

OPTIONAL: Make up a story about your Model.

Models can be sprayed or painted with clear acrylic to preserve.

NOTE:

Models are art and will only last a few months. If you want a more permanent model, do not use the flour clay-dough and upgrade to clay that needs to be baked, or even high quality air-dry.