

River School Curricular Connections

River Champions (Grades 3-5)

The Fraser River Basin is 240,000 square kilometers in size, where close to three million inhabitants call its 13 sub-watersheds “home.” Indigenous peoples have lived within the Fraser River Basin since time immemorial, holding traditional knowledge about the basin’s many ecologically diverse regions. Non-Indigenous settlers began to arrive in the late 18th century and sought to utilize the vast resources that the Fraser River watershed provides. Today, the conditions affecting the Fraser River are rapidly changing because of a changing climate; in recent years, residents of British Columbia have seen unprecedented floods, wildfires, and droughts. This program will show students how to predict and prepare for extreme events using a stream table, a tool that can replicate real-life river processes. Students will also have a chance to create their own miniature infrastructure designs to test them against the simulated river forces.

Grade	Subject	Curricular Area	Features
3	Science	Big Ideas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wind, water, and ice change the shape of the land.
		Curricular Competencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Make predictions based on prior knowledge• Make observations about living and non-living things in the local environment• Experience and interpret the local environment• Identify some simple environmental implications of their and others’ actions
		Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local First Peoples knowledge of local landforms• Observable changes in the local environment caused by erosion and deposition by wind, water, and ice
4	Science	Big Ideas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All living things sense and respond to their environment.
		Curricular Competencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Make predictions based on prior knowledge• Make observations about living and non-living things in the local environment• Identify some simple environmental implications of their and others’ actions• Transfer and apply learning to new situations

		Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biomes as large regions with similar environmental features
5	Science	Big Ideas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earth materials change as they move through the rock cycle and can be used as natural resources.
		Curricular Competences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience and interpret the local environment • Identify First Peoples perspectives and knowledge as sources of information • Co-operatively design projects
		Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The nature of sustainable practices around BC's resources • First Peoples knowledge of sustainable practices