

Enviroscape Model

Objective: Students will gain an understanding of how a watershed works by viewing and experimenting with an Enviroscape Model.

Materials: Enviroscape Model with User's Guide.

ACTIVITY PROCEDURE:

The Enviroscape Model, a tabletop (2.5 ft. x 2.5 ft.), plastic watershed model is a terrific tool that can be used to help students understand the concept of watershed both visually and through action. The model that the Bronx River Alliance has purchased for loan is the Hazardous Materials Model, the model that most closely resembles an urban watershed complete with an "urban center" (apartments and stores), a sewage treatment plant, storm drains, industrial plant, abandoned warehouse, school, garden, and an unlined landfill. There is a user's guide that will guide you through how to demonstrate the workings of a watershed, including how to connect the sewage treatment plant, how to make it rain (spray bottle), and how the water flows throughout the watershed.



SOME EXPERIENCE

IN THE CLASSROOM

Skills:

Using Scientific Tools, Teamwork, Critical Thinking, Observe/Compare.

Subject/Discipline:

Science, Social Studies, Social/Environmental Justice.

Science Standards:

S1, S2, S3, S4, S5, S6, S8

Time:

At least 1 class meeting; 30 minutes to 2 hours, depending on the depth of discussion and involvement of the students.

The Inside Track:

Contact the Bronx River Alliance (718-430-4665) to borrow the Enviroscape Model, instructions, related materials, and lesson suggestions.

EXTENSIONS:

Contact the Alliance for information on how to make your own watershed model and learn about other related activities.



Photos: EnviroScape, www.envirosapes.com

