

## Understanding Your Environment: River Systems Activity 3 - Sediments in Streams

### This investigation will help you to:

- Size Range of Sediments
- Transportation of Sediment by Streams
- How Streams Reduce the Sizes of Sediment Particles
- Downstream Fining
- To learn more about sediment clean up after a flood, visit the following web sites:

#### Size Range of Sediments

- How fast do sediment grains of different sizes settle? Vanderbilt University  
Check out this sample lesson plan for a lab about sediment grains settling rate.

[Back to Top](#)

#### Transportation of Sediment by Streams

- Field Exercise: Stream Flow Dynamics and Sedimentation - Hobart & William Smith Colleges  
Another lab to try but this one is outside.

[Back to Top](#)

#### How Streams Reduce the Sizes of Sediment Particles

- Streams and Drainage Systems - Tulane University  
Read an overview of many of the topics covered in this chapter, including particle size changes downstream (see the "Changes Downstream" section).

[Back to Top](#)

#### Downstream Fining

- **Journal of Sedimentary Research Articles - Abstracts**  
Here are two abstracts for papers published in Journal of Sedimentary Research. The links take you to pages that include the necessary information to look up the article.
  1. The nature and controls on downstream fining, by Rice, S.
  2. Identifying the controls over downstream fining of river gravels, by Hoey, T. and Bluck, B.

[Back to Top](#)

To learn more about sediment clean up after a flood, visit the following web sites:

- [Flood and Flash Flood - American Red Cross.](#)
- [Floods - University of Missouri](#)

[Back to Top](#)

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