

WATERSHED WARRIORS

Pre-Documentary Mini-Lesson



WHAT IS A WATERSHED?

What Is A Watershed?

A watershed is an area of land that drains water into another larger body of water such as rivers, lakes, or bays.

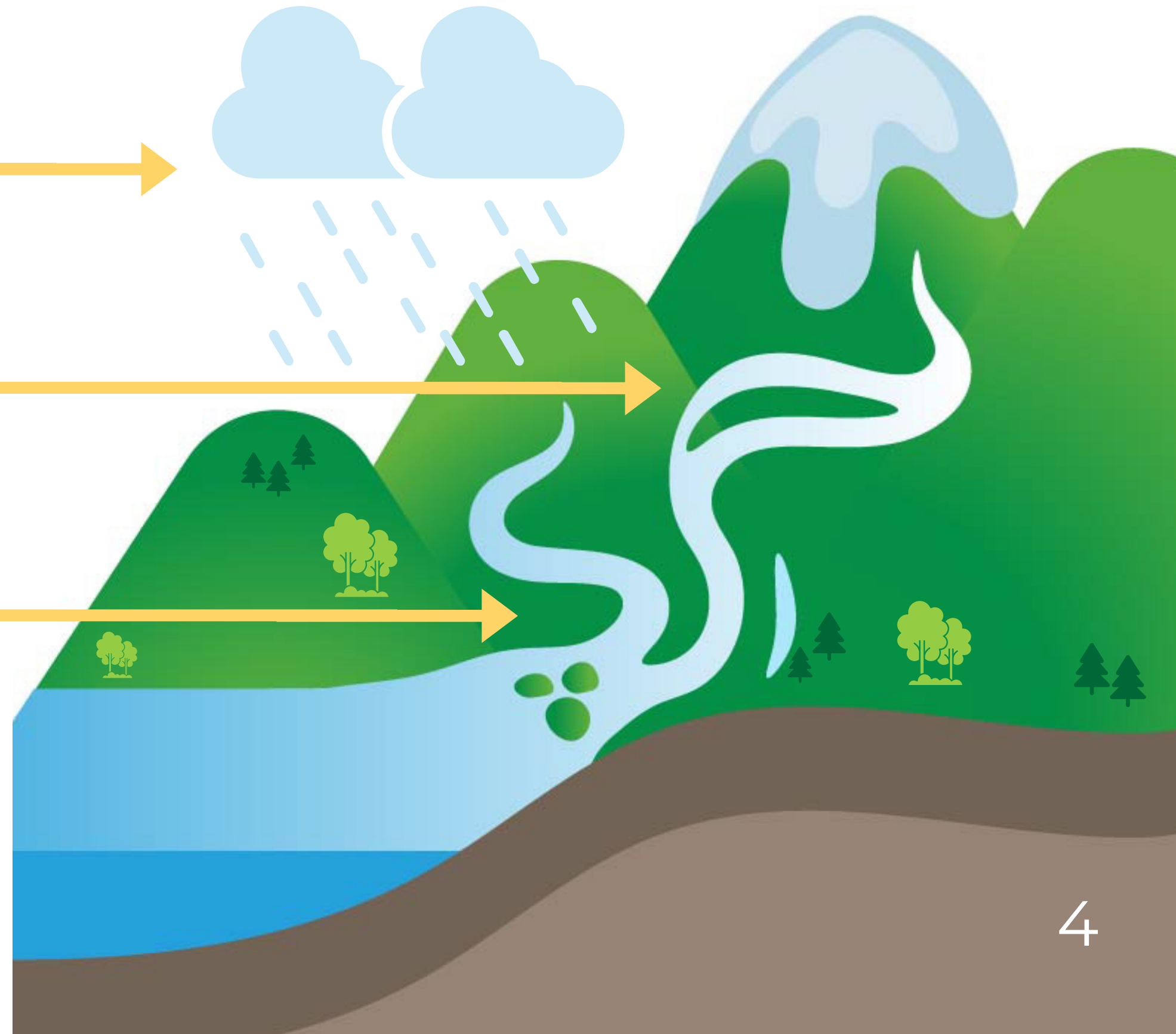
How Does A Watershed Form?

Rain falls on the ground. _____

Water runs down hills and streets. _____

Water collects in streams and rivers. _____

The land that separates the flowing water is called a **watershed!**



Watersheds Support Complex Ecosystems



WHAT IS AN ECOSYSTEM?

What Is An Ecosystem?

An ecosystem is the living things and non-living things in an area.

Living Things

(Things that grow, eat, or move!)



Non-Living Things

(Not alive, but part of the ecosystem)



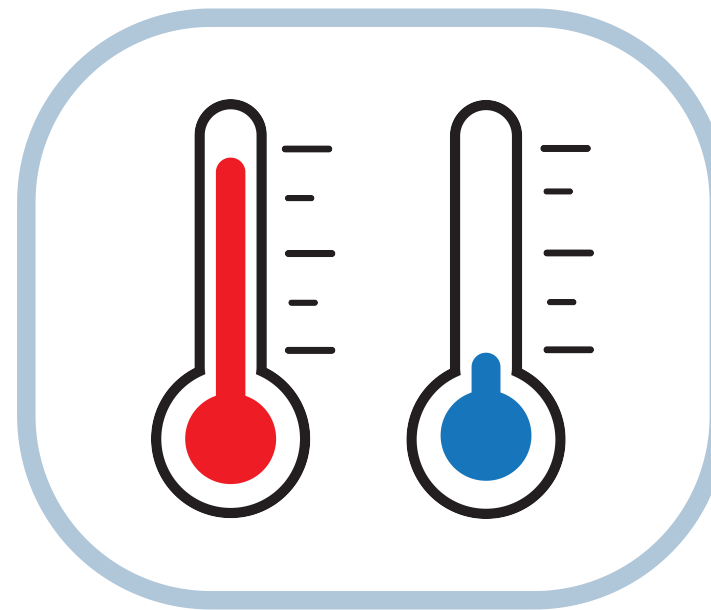
Healthy Ecosystems Hold Indicator Species

WHAT IS AN INDICATOR SPECIES?

What Is An Indicator Species?

An indicator species is a plant or animal which, if found, tells scientists the ecosystem is healthy.

Environmental challenges can harm living things in a river ecosystem.



A large turtle with a dark shell and yellow markings on its head and legs is perched on a log in a river. The background is a blurred green, suggesting a natural habitat.

Biodiversity

Biodiversity is the variety of all living things in a habitat, helping nature stay healthy and balanced.

A variety of living organisms is a good sign of a healthy river.

Healthy River = Healthy Watershed!

A person with long hair, wearing a camouflage cap and an orange life vest, is sitting in a green canoe on a river. The canoe has the name 'We·no·nah' written on its side. The person is holding a paddle and looking towards the water. The background is filled with lush green vegetation.

WATERSHED WARRIORS

This [video](#) shares the story of the work being done by the Friends of the Fox River to keep the river clean and healthy for animals, plants, and everyone in their community.