***INSTRUCTOR - DELETE INSTRUCTIONS PRIOR TO PRINTING: The following can either be printed and given individually to students to save time and eliminate the need for a journal OR for the journal approach, have a few printed/laminated copies for students to reference: The field data/meta-data sheet should include the following categories/headers:***

**Data to include in your journal**

**Theme:** Watershed *(suggested: please update to suit your use)*

**Name:**

**Date:**

**Time:**

**Location:**

Specific: Official name of the place or coordinates

Relative: (Describe in your own words, where you are)

**Season:**

**Temperature**: (search online/weather app or use thermometer on-site)

**Type of Stream (Perennial, Intermittent, Ephemeral):**

Watershed Component word bank:

| Natural - gravity, elevation, slope, water, ridges/divides, headwaters, tributary, precipitation, spring, valley, confluence, floodplain, aquifer, groundwater, water table, riparian zone, wetland, sediment, vegetation, sewer, channel, reservoir, dam |
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Watershed process word bank:

| infiltration, weathering, erosion, deposition, transportation, sedimentation |
| --- |

Definitions of a watershed - to assist you in your observations:

* An area of land that drains all the streams and rainfall to a common outlet due to gravity. This outlet can be any point along the stream channel, but is typically a reservoir or mouth of a bay (the ocean). ​(USGS 2023)
  + Gravity guides water from areas of high elevation to low elevation
* A watershed includes both biotic and abiotic factors.
  + Biotic Factors - Living things such as humans, wildlife, vegetation, and insects
  + Abiotic factors - Nonliving components such as sunlight, oxygen, temperature, soil and sediments.

If you find yourself with extra time - after you’ve identified as many components and processes as you can:

Tune back into your senses - how are you feeling currently?

Where has this water come from? Where is it going?

Have you seen any biotic components of the watershed (living things)?

What abiotic factors are you interacting with?

Can you identify places where water flows at times of increased flow?