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Mr. Schmidt Science 8

Glencoe Earth Science Chapter 9 Vocabulary

bed load discharge divide flood floodplain runoff

suspension watershed base level delta meander rejuvenation

stream bank stream channel eutrophication lake wetland

1. Flood – potentially devastating natural occurrence in which water spills over the sides of stream’s banks onto adjacent land areas.
2. Rejuvenation – process during which a stream resumes downcutting towards its base level, increasing its rate of flow.
3. Runoff – water that flows downslope on Earth’s surface and may enter a stream, river, or lake; its rate is influenced by the angle of the slope, vegetation, rate of precipitation, and soil composition.
4. Meander – curve or bend in a stream formed when a stream’s slope decreases, water builds up in a stream channel, and moving water erodes away the sides of the streambed.
5. Delta – triangular deposit, usually made up of silt and clay particles, that forms where a stream enters a large body of water.
6. Base level – the elevation at which a stream enters another stream body or body of water.
7. Floodplain – broad, flat, fertile area extending out from stream’s bank that is covered with water during floods.
8. Divide – elevated land that divides on watershed from another.
9. Eutrophication – process by which lakes become rich in nutrients from the surrounding watershed, resulting in a change in the kinds of organisms in the lake.
10. Lake – natural or human-made body of water that can form when a depression on land fills with water.
11. Bed load – describes sediments that are too heavy or large to be kept in suspension or solution and are pushed or rolled along the bottom of a streambed.
12. Watershed – land area drained by a stream system.
13. Wetland – any land area, such as a bog or marsh, that is covered in water a large part of the year and supports specific plant species.
14. Stream bank – ground bordering each side of a stream that keeps the moving water confined.
15. Suspension – the method of transport for all particles small enough to be held up by the turbulence of a stream’s moving water.
16. Discharge – measure of a volume of stream water that flows over a specific location in a particular amount of time.
17. Stream channel – narrow pathway carved into the sediment or rock by the movement of surface water.