Lab Sheet: Water's Effect on Erosion and Deposition Within the Water Tables

Materials needed	• paint tray or paint tray liner (can be purchased at dollar store or any hardware store) • sand (real sand or play sand) • pebbles or rocks (if using rocks from outside, give them a rinse/wash ahead of time) • a small pitcher or measuring cup for pouring water
Hypothesis – what do you think will happen?	
Procedure	Be sure to set up your water table before you begin. To set up your water table: 1. Mix two cups of sand with one cup of pebbles or rocks. 2. Place the sand and rock mixture in the top portion of the paint tray (the ridged part where it slopes downward) and pack it down. Next, add the stream of water. 3. Pour a small but constant trickle of water over the sand and rock mixture. (If your paint tray gets full, either dump out some of the water or absorb it using paper towel). Record what happened on the lab sheet.

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Procedure	4. Pour a larger but constant stream of water (again) over the sand and rock mixture, this time pouring a little faster than before. (If your paint tray is full, either dump out some of the water or absorb it using paper towel). Record what happened on the lab sheet. After all of observations have been recorded, it is important to clean up all the materials.
Observations *Remember observations can be recorded with pictures, numbers and/or words!	1. What happened when you trickled some water over the sand and pebble mixture? Draw a picture and label / record what happened. 2. What happened when you more consistently poured some water over the sand and pebble mixture? Draw a picture and label / record what happened.

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Conclusions	
Questions	1. What did you notice was forming at the bottom of the paint tray (opposite of where the sand was)? What about the top where the sand was? 2. Was any sand/ pebbles taken down to the bottom of the paint tray? This would be sediment.

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Questions	3. In the second trial, what did you notice about how quickly the water travelled from the top to the bottom of the paint tray? Why do you think this is? 4. What type of weather might these two trials represent? 5. How did the results at the bottom of the paint tray change with the two different water amounts (trickle vs. stream)? Why do you think this was? How does this represent a river or stream in real life?