



# Goop To Geoforms

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Grade: 3-5

## Purpose

To illustrate geographical terms relating to water in three-dimensional forms.

## Objectives

Using a geographic dictionary, students will define terms associated with differing landscapes. After explaining the meaning of a landform or physical feature, students will locate examples of the terms on a map. Students will create a 3-D landscape feature by using "goop" and paint.

## Materials

- Goop (see recipe below)
- 5 X 5 cardboard squares (one per geoform)
- Tempera paint
- Brushes
- Geoform worksheet
- GOOP RECIPE
  - 2 cups table salt and 2/3 cup water
  - 1 cup cornstarch and 2/3 cup water

## Recipe

Mix salt and 2/3 cup of water in a saucepan, stirring until the mixture is well heated (3 or 4 minutes). Remove from heat and add cornstarch which has been mixed with 2/3 cup of water. Stir quickly. If it does not thicken, return

to low heat and stir until thick. It is hard to stir, but undercooking leaves it sticky. It should form a soft, pliable mass. It can be kept in a jar or plastic wrap, and it does not need refrigeration.

NOTE: 5 pounds of salt and 2 cups of water to 1 pound of cornstarch and 2 cups of water yields 10 tennis ball-sized balls of "goop." One ball will complete 2 geoforms. Excess goop may be stored and kept up to one year.

### Procedure

1. Discuss the different types of landscapes found throughout the world.
2. Pass out worksheets and atlases.
3. Have the students define all appropriate terms.
4. Using a map of the world and the atlases, locate specific examples of the terms you have discussed. They can write these on their worksheets.
5. Pass out all necessary materials for making the geoforms from "goop."
6. Have students create a 3-D geoform to illustrate the meaning of their landform or physical feature. Once the "goop" has dried enough, the geoforms should be painted using the tempera paint and brushes.
7. Each student will present their geoform to the class, explaining the landscape they are illustrating. They should also give a correct definition of the landform or physical feature and an example of where such a landform would be found in the world.
8. Discuss the differences in terms that are very similar in nature such as river/ tributary.

### Evaluation

Students can be evaluated on their worksheet work, geoform model, and presentation in class.

### Source

This exercise was adopted from a lesson presented at the National Geographic Society "Workshop on Water" in San Francisco during the

summer of 1993. The original presentation was given by JEFF CENOZ of Arroyo, CA.



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