

Name: _____

Human Impact Exploring Debris Science Notebook Page

Why do you think scientists were able to predict the flood of 1997 but not prevent it?

Keeping in mind that we can predict floods but not always prevent them, what do you think people can do to reduce the impact of flooding?

Think back to the first Reno/Sparks level of Flood Fighters. Why was it necessary to clear the debris from under the bridges? What happened if you did not clear the debris fast enough?

Let's test to see the real-life effects of debris on flooding. For this experiment, you are going to need the following supplies:

- A bin
- Enough soil/dirt to fill half the bin
- A bucket of water

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- Small miscellaneous items to act as debris
- Long object to act as a bridge

Instructions:

1. Pour the soil/dirt into the bin only filling it half way.
2. Using your hand or a tool, carve something that looks like a river into the soil going from one end of the bin to the other.
3. Place the long object 6 inches from the end of the river to act as a bridge.
4. Put the small debris objects into the bucket of water.
5. Make a prediction as to what you think is going to happen to the river.

What do you think is going to happen to the river when you add the debris?

6. Slowly pour the water into the beginning of your river until the bucket is empty of water and debris.
7. Watch what happens to the river.

What did you notice happen? What can people do to help stop this from happening in the future?
