

# SETTLE DOWN

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Can a wetland soak up a flood of muddy water?

## DIRT DROP

1. Make muddy water. Stir 1 tablespoon of dirt into a glass of water. **Predict:** If you stop stirring, what will happen to the dirt?
2. Stop stirring. Wait 10 minutes. **Observe:** What happens to the dirt and water?
3. Stir the water to get it moving. **Observe:** What happens to the dirt and water?



### Wrap-Up:

How might wetlands help clean dirty flood waters? Write your ideas on the back.

## MUDDY WATER RACE

### OFFICIAL RULES:

1. Sponge teams race against no-sponge teams.
2. Prop up cookie sheets three inches at one end.
3. Each team needs a

**WATER CATCHER:** Hold bowl at the bottom of the cookie sheet to catch the water. Act quickly!

**POURER:** Stir up dirt in the muddy water. Pour it at the top of your cookie sheet.

**TIMEKEEPER:** Say "Go!" to the Pourer. Time how long the water takes to fill the bowl.

**RECORDKEEPER:** Say "Finished" when all water has run into the bowl. Record official race results.

4. When the Timekeeper says, "Go!" Pourer pours muddy water. Water Catcher has bowl ready to catch water. Recordkeeper says "Finished" when water has run down. Timekeeper calls out, "time."

### RACE RESULTS

#### NO-SPONGE TEAM

Time: \_\_\_\_\_ seconds

#### SPONGE TEAM

Time: \_\_\_\_\_ seconds

How does your water look?  
Compare with the other team.

Write your observations  
on the back.

### Take-Home Challenge:

Visit a marsh, swamp, bog, streamside,  
or other wetland with your family.  
List the plants and animals you see.

