

Name _____

Date _____



Mapping Your Neighborhood

What are the surfaces like in your neighborhood? Use this activity to find out!

Materials: pen or pencil, colored pencils/crayons, measuring cup, water

1. What is the difference between a permeable and an impermeable surface?

2. Describe your neighborhood. Does it have lots of grass or trees? Houses? Apartments?

3. Are there more permeable or impermeable surfaces in your neighborhood?

4. When it rains, where does the water go?

Try this: Go outside and walk around your neighborhood. You don't have to map the whole neighborhood, but try to do one city block if you can. Look at all the features: trees, sidewalks, houses, streets, etc. Look for gutters or rain grates on the side of the street.

Try to decide how much of your neighborhood is covered (in percent) by each of the following:



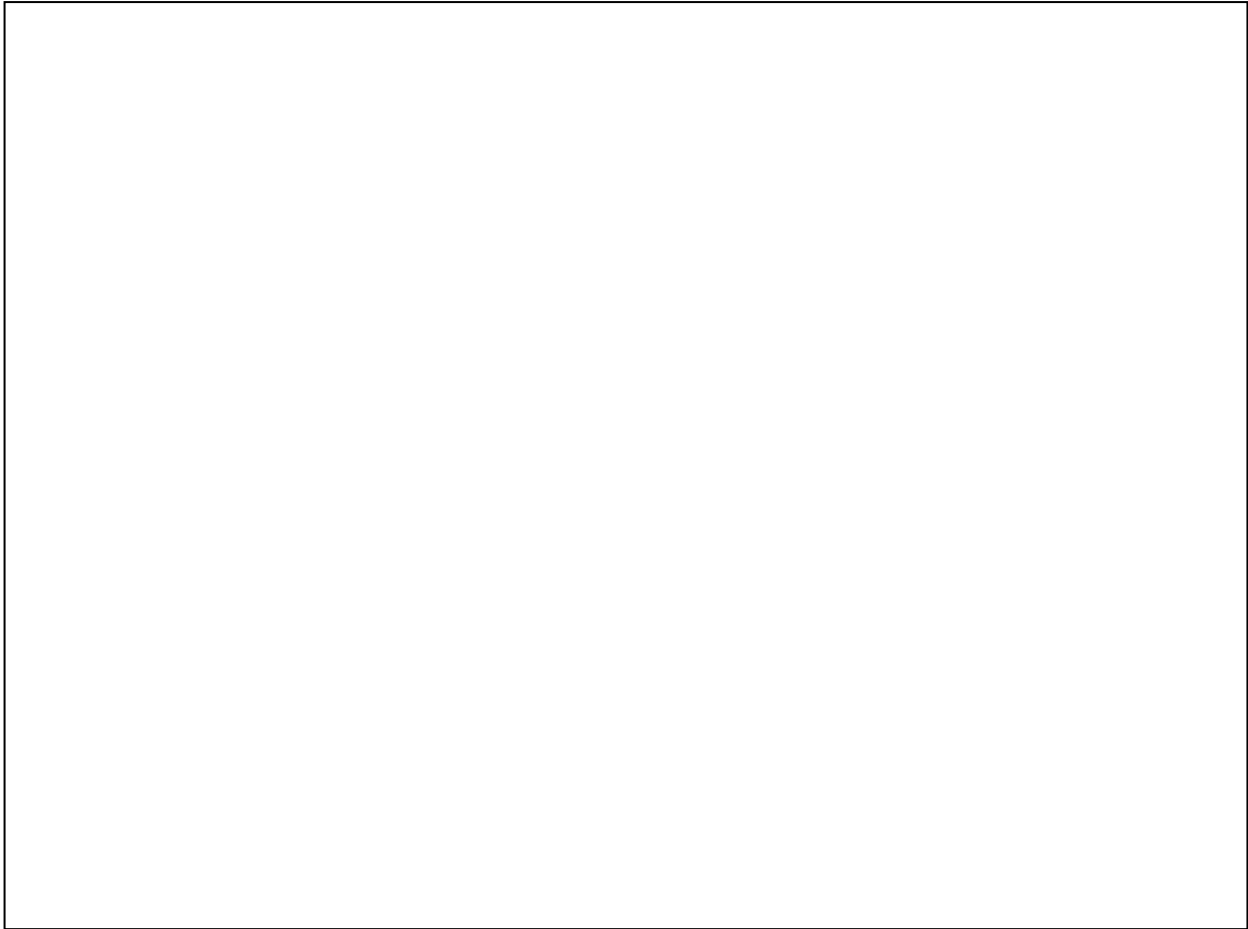
Grass/trees/other plants: _____

Sidewalks/driveways/streets: _____

Houses/other buildings: _____

Other: _____

Create a map of your neighborhood. Label your drawing carefully and use colored pencils/crayons to show different types of surface cover. For example, you can use green for all the grass and trees, brown for the houses, and black for the sidewalks and streets.



Finally, test the different surface types in your neighborhood. Get a measuring cup and fill it with one cup of water. Pour the water on the different surfaces, one cup per surface. Fill out the chart below with your results!

Surface	What happened to the water? Explain where the water went.
Grass/trees/other plants	
Sidewalks/streets/driveways	
Houses/other buildings	
Other: _____	

Based on the information you collected, where does most of the water in your neighborhood go when it rains? _____