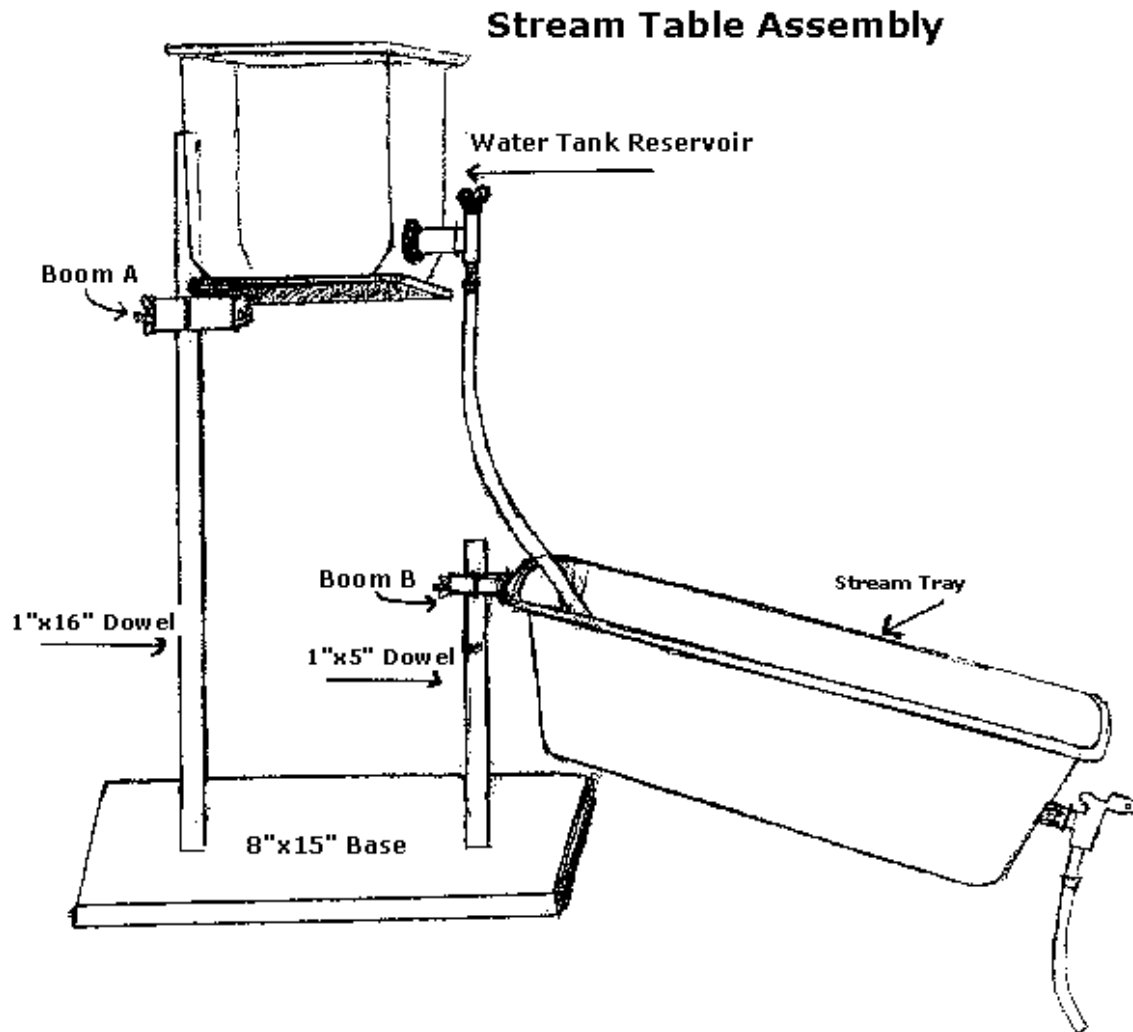


Stream Table Setup Instructions



Assembly Instructions:

1. Screw 1"x16" Dowel into Base (see above)
2. Screw 1"x5" Dowel into Base (see above)
3. Insert Boom A (holds water tank) over 1"x16" Dowel and tighten
4. Insert Boom B (holds water tank) over 1"x5" Dowel and tighten
5. Place water tank onto Boom A
6. Note: spigots on water tank and stream tray can be adjusted (finger tight) to whatever position you prefer.

WARNINGS!

1. Don't let any soil go down your drain. You can catch the outflow in a container. With time all the soil will settle to the bottom. Then you can drain off the water and put the soil back into the stream table.

2. Wear your surgical mask while you handle dry soil. When you pour the dry soil into the pan you could inhale silicate particles and this could hurt your lungs.

Soil preparation

Put a mix of 8 cups of sand and 2 cups of clay into your stream table bin.

Add water just to moisten the soil, mix it well, and spread it out in your stream table leaving 2 or 3 inches at the outlet end empty for a "sea."

Put a layer of gravel on the bottom of the stream table at the outlet end where you didn't put any of the sand and clay mixture.

Smooth the soil surface with your hands, creating a very gradual slope toward the downstream end where the soil meets the gravel.

Adjusting the stream table apparatus

Set the large platform, Boom A, about 9.5 inches above the base. Fill the water container with water and set it on the platform.

Set the smaller platform, Boom B, about 4 inches above the base.

Perch the upstream end of the stream table on the lip of Boom B, and adjust the height of Boom B so that the upstream end of the stream table is about 1.25 inches off the table.

On the upstream end of the stream table, insert the tube from the water container into the stream table, so that it hangs just over the surface of the soil. You may need to cut the tube to get the right length.



Water

With the downstream valve closed, add water to the downstream end of the stream table, until the water level in the "sea" above the gravel is about 1 inch above of stream table bottom.

Turn on the valve so that the water pours onto the soil in a steady stream, just fast enough so that you can no longer see the separate drips of water.

Open the valve at the downstream end so that the water leaves the stream table at the same rate that it enters. You want the "sea" to maintain the same elevation.

Don't disturb your stream table while you are watching the river form.



Too slow?

The formation of a river in a stream table can be a little slow, but it's still extremely fast on a geologic time scale. If, after 30 minutes, a river has not formed, you can adjust your stream table. Open the inflow valve to increase the rate of flow, or very slightly increase the slope of the stream table. Or you can just leave the water running until the water tank reservoir is empty.

Need help?

See the Stream Table Troubleshooting Guide