NOW Science Student Watershed Evaluation

Students should complete this drawing twice, once at the beginning of the watershed lesson, and once when completing it.

Grading Rubric:

This evaluation question is based on the “Draw a Watershed” activity designed by Shephardson, et al., 2007. Students are asked to draw a simple version of a watershed and asked to describe their drawing. Drawings elicit students’ conceptions without constraining the student to predetermined responses. Furthermore, it provides the students with a nontraditional, open-ended way in which to express their ideas (Shephardson, et al., 2007). The written portion allows students to describe their drawings and clarifies their conceptions. This activity has been used for several years for the NOW science evaluation.

Using the student’s drawing and written responses, the drawings are ranked into categories:

- Rank 0: A drawing that has no resemblance to a watershed via the other ranks.
- Rank 1: A watershed as a human-built facility, like for storing water.
- Rank 2: A watershed as a natural storage of water (ie. Bodies of water such as a lake or pond).
- Rank 3: A watershed as a natural process in a natural undeveloped setting, may also contain elements of the hydrologic cycle.
- Rank 4: A watershed as a natural process in a natural undeveloped and a developed setting, may also contain elements of the hydrologic cycle.
Draw a Watershed (keep it simple and use labels)

Describe your drawing. Use two sentences.

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