

How fast is groundwater (.00002 km per hour)?

Typical rates of flow:

Ocean current = 3 km per hour

Steep river channel = 30 km per hour

Groundwater = 0.00002 km per hour

In order to create a visual representation of .00002 km per hour, we are going to determine how many days it would take groundwater to travel 10 meters across your classroom.

1. Measure 10 meters across your classroom floor.
2. Convert .00002 from kilometers to meters. (1 km = 1000 meters)
3. Calculate how many hours for groundwater to travel 10 meters.
4. Convert the number of hours into days (1 day = 24 hours)

Challenge question: How long would it take groundwater to go from McComb, Mississippi to Baton Rouge, Louisiana at the rate of .00002 km/hour?