

Erosion: The Changing Shape of the Land



Topic: Environment/Weather

Curriculum link: Earth Science

Text type: Explanation

Reading level: 23

Word count: 574

Vocabulary: avalanches, canyons, changing, cliffs, coastline, desert, erosion, glacier, ice, landslides, sand dunes, snow, shapes, water, wind, worn away, valley

Possible literacy focus:

- Understanding scientific language: break up, erosion, grind, wears away.
- Understanding how erosion can occur.
- Interpreting information provided in the pictures.

Follow-up activities

Discuss and reflect

After reading the book, ask the children:

What is erosion?

How does it occur?

What are the different ways that the land changes as a result of erosion?

Pick one form of erosion and discuss it with a partner.

Share your discussion with another pair.

Scientific language

Write the following words and phrases on the board: wears away, erosion, grind, gullies.

Ask the children to find these words and phrases in the text.

What do they mean?

Why did the author choose to use these particular words?

Are there any other words in the text that you do not understand?

Where could you find out the meaning of these words?

Text features – Contents page and Index

Ask the children to locate the contents page and the index.

What are they for?

How do you use them?

Why do some books have them and others don't?

Ask children to find information from both the index and the contents page.

Can you tell me where I would find information on avalanches in the book? (Contents page)

Where would I find information on water? Why are there so many page entries for water? (Index – eight pages listed)

Chart

You will need:

paper, pencils, felt pens

1. Re-read *Erosion: The Changing Shape of the Land*.
2. Pick one of the landforms from the book.
3. Make a chart to explain how erosion occurs.
4. Remember to use large, clear lettering so that it is easy to read.
5. Display your chart in the classroom.

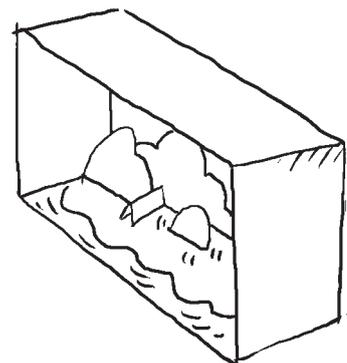


Diorama

You will need:

old boxes, scraps of material, sand, cellophane, crepe paper, cardboard cylinders, matchsticks, wool, string, sticky tape, scissors, glue, paper, pencils

1. Pick one of the landforms from *Erosion*.
2. Make a diorama of your landform.
3. Write labels for the special parts of your model.
4. Attach the labels to your model.
5. Display your model in the classroom.



Erosion

Write about each picture. Also describe how erosion shapes each landform.









Make a glossary

Write a definition for each of these words.

Glossary

Word	Definition
coastline	
erosion	
gully	
landslide	
slope	
valley	

Instructions Explain to the children that a glossary is a list of words in alphabetical order, found at the end of some books. It explains what the words mean.