

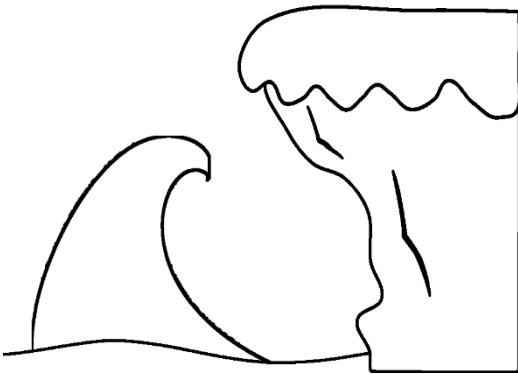
Weathering, Erosion & Deposition

The Earth is constantly changing. Weathering, erosion and deposition change the Earth's surface.

Weathering is when wind, water, chemicals and other processes gradually wear down, break or dissolve the Earth's surface into smaller and smaller pieces. Erosion is the process by which these small pieces of rock are moved. Particles of rock, called sediment, can be moved by wind, gravity, water or ice. Erosion is the moving of rocks. Deposition occurs when the sediment is dropped in a new location. Deposition is how new landforms develop.

Weathering, erosion and deposition are distinct but connected processes that are at work every day changing the landscape of the Earth.

An Example:



Waves crash into a rocky cliff face. Very slowly, over many years, the rocks break down. This is **weathering**, the breaking of rocks.

As well as slowly breaking the rock, the waves also carry the broken particles away. This is the process of **erosion**.

The loose particles that have been carried off will eventually find a new place to settle. Perhaps they will wash up onto the shore of a beach, or maybe they will form a new layer on the ocean floor. The process of broken rocks being dropped in a new location is called **deposition**.

L	S	A	O	O	O	V	V	R	F	I
G	C	D	X	D	R	E	T	A	W	W
Q	D	N	Y	F	L	R	F	P	G	F
G	J	N	S	K	A	E	R	B	A	D
M	N	O	I	T	I	S	O	P	E	D
O	I	Q	O	W	H	S	P	O	R	D
T	A	K	E	S	B	X	L	J	H	Z
W	E	A	T	H	E	R	I	N	G	Y
I	P	J	X	S	L	U	P	F	P	C
E	R	O	S	I	O	N	Y	W	T	C
R	H	A	W	O	Y	K	J	S	Q	J

weathering	erosion	deposition	wind
breaks	takes	drops	water

breaks it (weathering)
takes it (erosion)
drops it (deposition)