

Weathering and Erosion Notes

Words To Know

- Gradual: Occurs over long periods of time
- Abrasion: The scraping of a rock surface by friction between rocks and moving particles
- Transportation: The movement of rock particles from one location to another

What Is Weathering?

- Weathering is the breakdown of rocks, soil, and minerals through direct contact with the Earth's atmosphere.
- It is usually caused by heat, water, ice, and pressure.

Types of Weathering

- Physical (or mechanical) weathering happens when wind, water, ice, or biological forces break rocks or soil into smaller pieces that are identical to the larger piece.
- Chemical weathering happens when chemicals change the properties of soil or rock so that it is different than the original.

Types of Chemical Weathering

- Dissolution happens when rocks are dissolved in a liquid.
- Oxidation happens when a rock rusts.
- Acid rain and other chemical reactions can also change the properties of a rock.

What Is Erosion?

- Once rock or soil is weathered, erosion can take place.
- Erosion is the movement of rock or soil particles from one place to another.
- It occurs due to transport by wind, water, and ice.

Name _____ Hour _____ Date _____