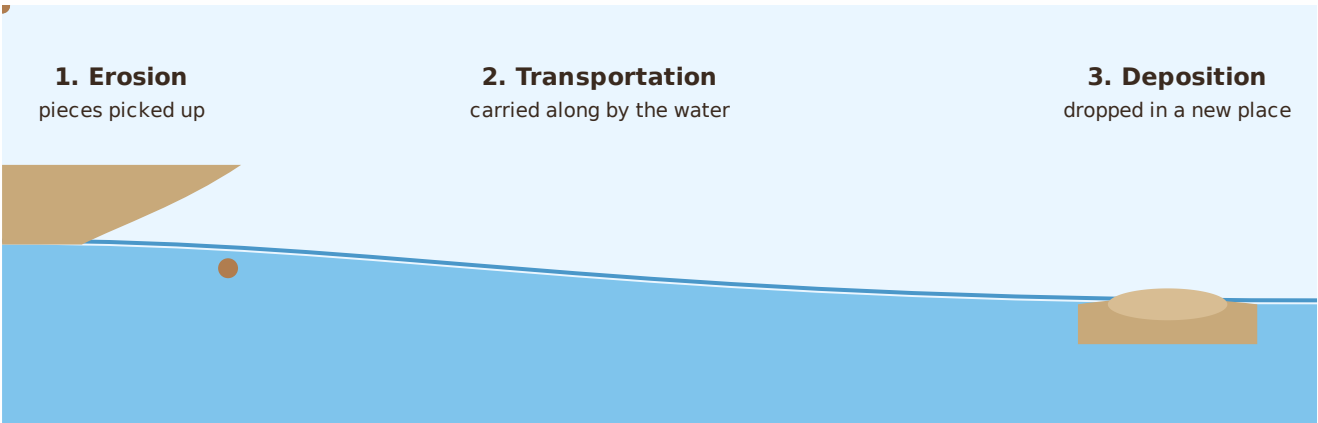


Wearing Away

Erosion, transportation and deposition

After rock is weathered into small pieces, water and wind can move it. This happens in three steps: erosion (the pieces are picked up), transportation (they are carried along) and deposition (they are dropped in a new place).



In a river, pieces of rock and soil are eroded from the bank, transported along by the moving water, and deposited where the water slows down.

Some of Earth's changes are slow (a river shaping the land over thousands of years, or the weathering of **Uluru**) and some are fast (a flood washing away soil in a day).

Moving the pieces

Q1. Put the three steps in the correct order (1, 2, 3) and describe each one.

Order (1-3)	Step	What happens
Deposition		
Erosion		
Transportation		

Q2. In your tray model, what did you use to **transport** the sand? What happened to the sand when the water or wind slowed down?

Q3. Explain the difference between weathering and erosion. Give one example of each.

Q4. Topsoil is the top layer of soil where plants grow. Explain why farmers worry when wind or water erodes their topsoil. What could happen to our food?

Q5. Suggest **one** way people could slow down the erosion of soil on a bare hillside.

Planting trees and grass, or placing rocks, can hold soil in place — the roots grip the soil and the plants slow the wind and water.