

Resource — Weathering and Erosion Match-Up

Printable vocabulary match-up resource for Lesson 9. Cut-out cards pairing weathering and erosion terms with child-friendly definitions and an example, for a group matching activity, plus a teacher answer key. Supports the Weathering Detectives worksheet.

Print one set per group and cut out all the cards (keep the term cards and definition cards separated). Groups race to match each **term** to its **definition** and its **example**. Then check with the answer key and fix any that were wrong.

Term cards

Term	Term	Term	Term
Weathering	Mechanical weathering	Chemical weathering	Biological weathering
Erosion	Transportation	Deposition	Topsoil

Definition cards (cut out and shuffle)

Definition	Example
Rock is broken into smaller pieces where it is	a cliff slowly crumbling
Rock is physically broken without changing what it is	water freezing in a crack (freeze & thaw)
A chemical reaction breaks the rock down	acid rain dissolving limestone
Living things break the rock	tree roots cracking a path; mining
Broken pieces are moved away by wind, water or ice	a river carrying sand downstream
The carrying of the pieces to a new place	wind blowing sand across a desert
The pieces settle and are dropped in a new place	sand building up into a sandbank
The dark, nutrient-rich top layer of soil where plants grow	the soil a farmer plants crops in

Teacher answer key

Term	Definition	Example
Weathering	Rock broken into smaller pieces where it is	a cliff slowly crumbling
Mechanical weathering	Physically broken without changing what it is	freeze & thaw
Chemical weathering	A chemical reaction breaks it down	acid rain on limestone
Biological weathering	Living things break the rock	tree roots; mining
Erosion	Broken pieces moved away	a river carrying sand
Transportation	Carrying pieces to a new place	wind blowing sand
Deposition	Pieces settle in a new place	a sandbank forming
Topsoil	The nutrient-rich top layer of soil	a farmer's growing soil

The big idea students should take away: **weathering breaks rock down where it is; erosion, transportation and deposition move the pieces and drop them somewhere new.**