

# WEATHERING & EROSION

## *Part 1: Read about weathering and erosion.*

Weathering and erosion work together to change the environment. In nature, large things get broken down into smaller things. This can take a really long time, but sometimes it happens fast! Keep reading to find out more about weathering and erosion.

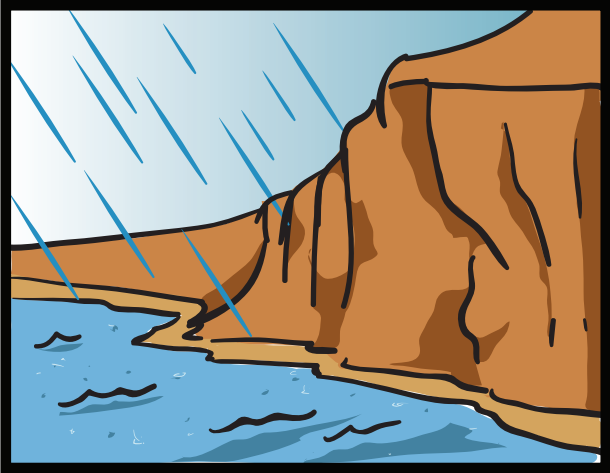
### *What is Weathering?*

Weathering is a natural process that breaks apart or changes rock. Some of the natural forces that cause weathering include heat, water, wind, and living things. There are three main types of weathering: physical, biological, and chemical. Weathering, unlike erosion, breaks things up into smaller pieces but does not move them away.

### *What is Erosion?*

Erosion is what moves the soil and tiny rocks that weathering leaves behind. The wind and water carry the sediment (small pieces of rock or sand) to a new location. Erosion can happen because gravity pulls soil downhill. It can also happen because of strong weather, like rain or wind. Erosion is a very slow process. It happens over many, many years.

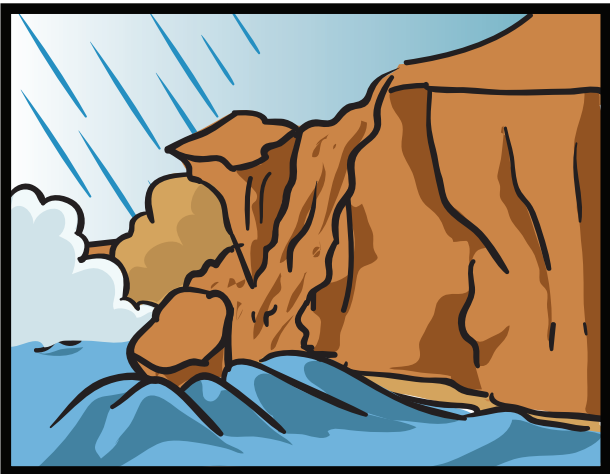
**Part 2: Look at the images. Color in the process that caused the changes to the rock. Next, justify your answer!**



**erosion**

**weathering**

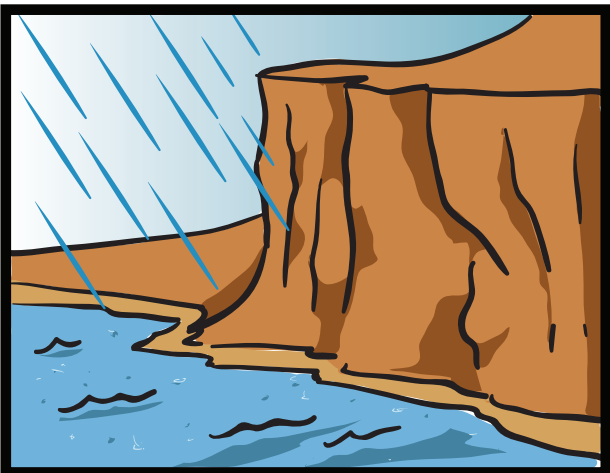
This picture shows weathering  
because the rain is changing and  
breaking down the rock over time,  
but the rock is not moving.



**erosion**

**weathering**

This picture shows erosion because  
the severe weather is breaking down  
and transporting, or moving, the rock  
in the water to a new location.



**erosion**

**weathering**

This picture shows weathering  
because the rain is changing and  
breaking down the rock over time,  
but the rock is not moving.