

THE EFFECTS OF EROSION

(6th Grade)

ALABAMA COURSE OF STUDY STANDARD (Science)

- ⇒ 5.) Use evidence to explain how different geologic processes shape Earth's history over widely varying scales of space and time (e.g., chemical and physical erosion; tectonic plate processes; volcanic eruptions; meteor impacts; regional geographical features, including Alabama fault lines, Rickwood Caverns, and Wetumpka Impact Crater).

DESCRIPTION

- ⇒ Farmer Shun will explore the concepts of **weathering**, **erosion**, and **deposition** on the Teaching Farm, giving visual examples of each and how they affect the space.

OBJECTIVES

Students will be able to:

- ⇒ **define** erosion, weathering, and deposition and cite different examples of each.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- ⇒ Paper and Writing Utensil (Students should have these ready before watching the video)
- ⇒ [EFFECTS OF EROSION \(YouTube Link\)](#)

FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION

After viewing the video, ask students the following questions:

- ⇒ What are some areas around your home or school where erosion or deposition takes place? How do you know?
- ⇒ Which process did Farmer Shun's hands represent when she broke apart the rocks in the beginning of the video (weathering, erosion, or deposition)? (*weathering*)
- ⇒ What were some examples of extreme wind erosion? (*Dust Bowl and Sahara Desert*)
- ⇒ What might be an example of extreme erosion caused by rain? (*mudslide*)
- ⇒ What are some ways ice can cause weathering? What about plants?
- ⇒ How might plants help slow erosion?



⇒ Is erosion good or bad for the Teaching Farm? Why?

FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES

1. **Erosion Song & Dance:** Have students repeat the lyrics (in a call-and-response style) below to help to remember all of the processes that exist within EROSION.
 - Students can create a beat or dance moves to go with the song as well.
 - For extra credit, have students create extra lyrics to further explain how erosion affects the world around them.

*Break, Move, Drop.
All of these processes happen to rocks.
Weathering breaks it,
Erosion takes it,
and when the motion stops, Deposition drops.
Break, Move Drop. Break, Move, Drop.*

2. **Erosion Article:** Have students explore [this page on National Geographic](#) to further their understanding on the impacts of erosion.

