

Weathering and Erosion

Weathering and erosion work together to change how our environment looks. This process breaks rocks down into smaller pieces and moves it to another location.

Weathering is what breaks down rocks into tiny pieces called sediment. Weathering can happen in many ways. Water can constantly flow over a rock, and over many years, make it smaller. Water can freeze inside a tiny crack of a rock and split it into two smaller pieces. Another way weathering can happen is from different plants or animals breaking down a rock.

Erosion is what moves the tiny pieces that have been weathered. This can happen when rocks fall down a hill or mountain into a new location. Flowing water can move pieces of rock down stream. Animals and people can also move rocks and sediments.

Fill in the blanks, using the words in the word bank, to complete the sentences.

erosion weathering location sediment change

1. _____ is the process of breaking down rocks into tiny pieces.
2. The tiny pieces of broken down rock are called _____.
3. _____ is what moves sediment from one _____ to another.
4. Weathering and erosion work together to _____ how our environment looks.

Rock Cycle

The process in which rocks change from one form to another is called the rock cycle. Complete the rock cycle diagram with the words in the word bank. Place the types of rocks in the rectangles. Write how they change from one type to another on the arrows. Some words in the word bank may not be used.

metamorphic rock

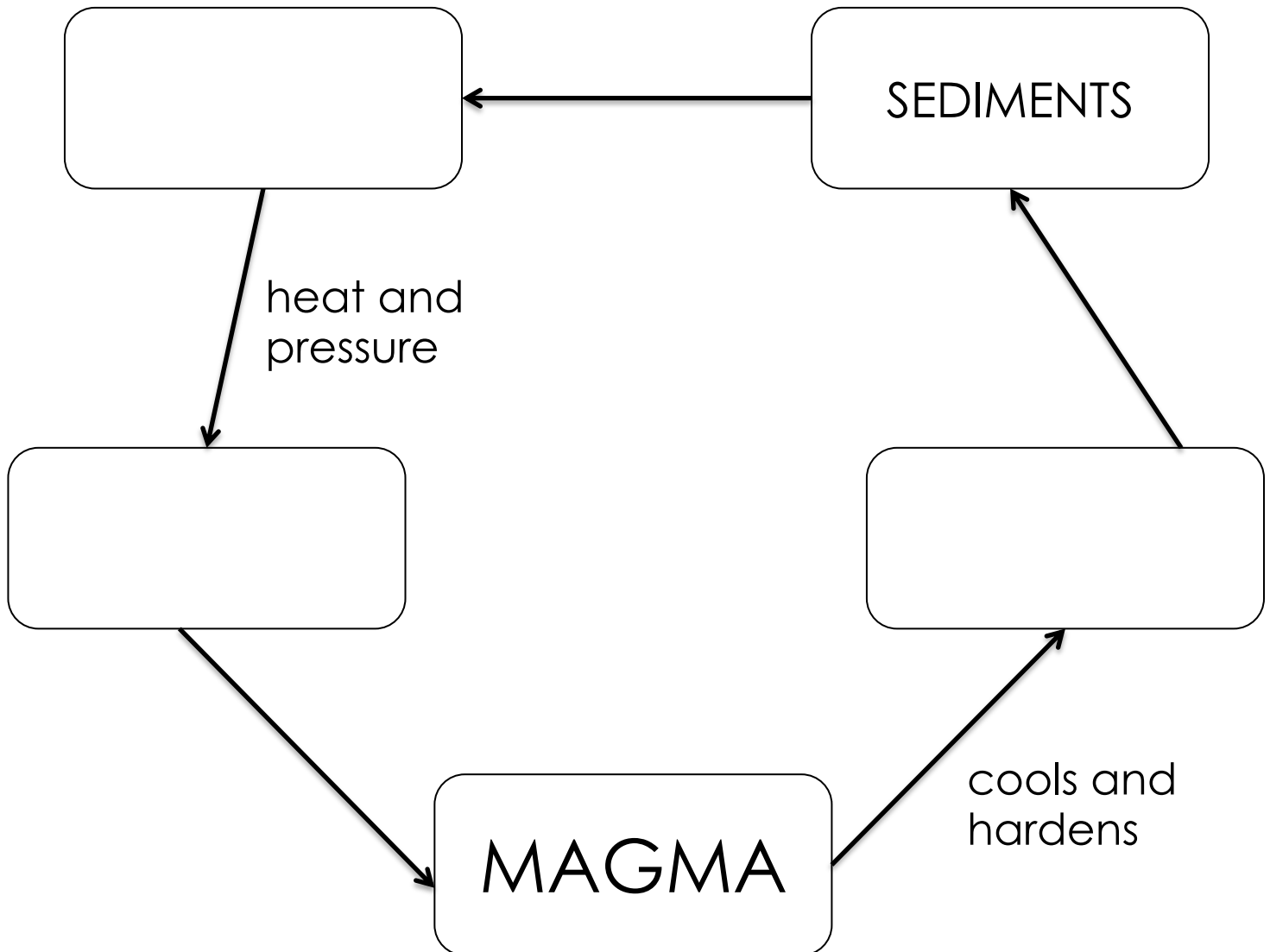
sedimentary rock

igneous rock

melting

weathering and erosion

compaction



let's learn about

ROCK & MINERAL VOCABULARY

WORD	DEFINITION	PICTURE
Minerals		
Igneous Rock		
Metamorphic Rock		
Sedimentary Rock		
Weathering		
Erosion		

ROCKS AND MINERALS

assessment

Name: _____ Date: _____

A: MULTIPLE CHOICE - Circle the correct answer.

[6]

- Rocks formed by cooling magma are _____ rocks.
a. Igneous b. Sedimentary c. Minerals d. Metamorphic
- _____ rocks are layers of pieces of rocks compacted.
a. Sedimentary b. Igneous c. Metamorphic d. Minerals
- _____ rocks are created by changing one rock into another because of heat and pressure.
a. Minerals b. Metamorphic c. Sedimentary g. Igneous
- Liquid rock that erupts near or on the Earth's surface is _____.
a. magma b. lava c. molten rock d. crust
- _____ and crystals grow in size but are not living.
a. extrusive b. habit c. minerals d. intrusive
- Which is not a property of minerals:
a. color b. luster c. taste d. streak

B: DEFINITION - Write the definition for the words.

[6]

1. **Extrusive**

2. **Intrusive**

3. **Habit (with regards to crystals)**

4. **Minerals**

5. **Erosion**

6. **Luster**

Name: _____ Date: _____

C: TRUE OR FALSE? - If false, correct the answer.

[5]

1. Weathering is the process of sediments moving over a surface.

2. Baby powder is made from the hardest mineral.

3. Crystals are confused with rocks.

4. People and animals moving rocks and sediments from one place to another is a form of weathering.

5. Rocks need to be weathered in order for sedimentary rock to be formed.

D: WHAT IS IT? Read the definition and write the word it defines.

[5]

1. The breaking down of rock into smaller pieces.	
2. A person who studies the Earth and changes below the surface of the Earth.	
3. Hot melted rock found deep inside the Earth.	
4. The process in which one rock changes into another rock.	
5. A rock that has gone through physical and chemical changes.	

E: FILL IN THE MISSING WORD.

[12 x ½ = 6]

1. The outer most layer of the Earth is the _____.

2. Meteorites contain bits of _____ and _____.

3. The _____ of the mantle causes _____ and _____.

Name: _____ Date: _____

- The outer core is the only layer that is _____.
- We use the mineral, _____ in pencils.
- Crystals are able to grow from _____, _____ and _____.
- Weathering and _____ work together to change how our environment looks.

F: ANSWER THE QUESTIONS in full sentences.

[6]

1. Why does the centre of the Earth not melt?

2. What is molten rock?

3. How do scientists know about the Earth's layers?

(2)

4. Explain two ways in which water weathers rock.

(2)

G: DISCUSSION TOPICS.

[12]

1. Discuss the properties of mantle.

(2)

2. Many people use parts of the crust in their kitchens. What is an example of rock used in kitchens, what is it used for and why is it perfect for the job?

(3)

Name: _____ Date: _____

3. Discuss two types of Igneous rock and how they are formed.

(4x ½ = 2)

2. Explain the process of the rock cycle.

(10x ½ = 5)

H: DIAGRAMS. [4]

Draw and label a cross section of the Earth's layers.

