



## Erosion

### **Measurable Objectives**

The students will identify which weather precipitation changed the soil in the activity.

### **Suggested Grade Level**

Kindergarten

### **GEL**

Science—Observe and describe daily weather precipitation (snow, wind, rain, cloud cover, and temperature)

### **Material**

- *Cracking Up: A Story about Erosion*
- Pictures of weather precipitation
- Dry-erase board marker
- 1 pan
- 1 small bag of soil
- 2 plastic cups
- 1 cup of water

### **Anticipatory Set**

1. Observe and record the daily weather for five days.
2. Write the words of the different types of weather precipitation on the board.
3. Go over and explain about each word.
4. Show the students a picture of rain and ask the students if this picture goes under the word snow, wind, temperature, etc.
5. Ask the students if anyone knows where they can find soil.
6. Explain to the students they will now learn how rain/water can change soil and they will accomplish this by doing an experiment showing erosion.

### **Instructional Point**

Prerequisite skills: The students must know about the different types of weather precipitation.

### **Procedures:**

- Read *Cracking Up: A Story About Erosion*
- Hold a discussion about the book
- Explain the activity procedure to the students
- Have the students predict what will happen in the experiment
- Begin the hands-on experiment
- Compare the prediction to the results



### **Measurable Objectives**

- Model reading *Cracking Up: A Story About Erosion*.
- Model the erosion activity.

### **Check for Understanding**

- Ask questions and/or make comments to make sure that the students comprehend the concept.

### **Guided Practice**

- Matching the pictures of the weather precipitation to the correct word.
- Ask the students if anyone knows where they can find soil.

### **Independent Practice**

- Predicting what will happen to the soil when the water is poured onto it.

### **Closure**

- To end the lesson ask the students if their idea about the soil matched up with what happened to the soil.

### **Evaluation**

- The students will correctly identify which weather precipitation changed the soil in the experiment.

*Lesson plan compiled by Erica Miller, an Earth Team Volunteer and Early Childhood Education student at Missouri State University, Springfield, MO. January, 2008*

# EROSION ACTIVITY

## Materials



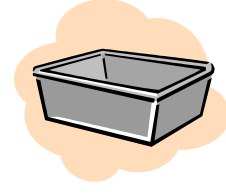
Water



Cup



Soil



Pan

## Steps

1. Put some soil in your pan. **Make a model** of a mountain.
2. **Predict** what will happen if you pour water onto the soil.
3. Hold the cup over the soil.
4. Have a partner slowly pour some water into the cup. **Observe.**

**Share. Tell how you showed erosion.**

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## Review Questions

1. What is erosion?
2. How do plants help the soil?
3. Draw your soil before and after you poured the water, on the back of this paper.
4. Where have you seen erosion?

## How Can Rocks and Soil Be Changed?

**Can you find the path in these pictures? The path was made by water. What happened to the soil that used to be there?**

The soil may have been slowly washed away by the water. The soil may also have been worn away by small pieces of rock that were carried in the water.

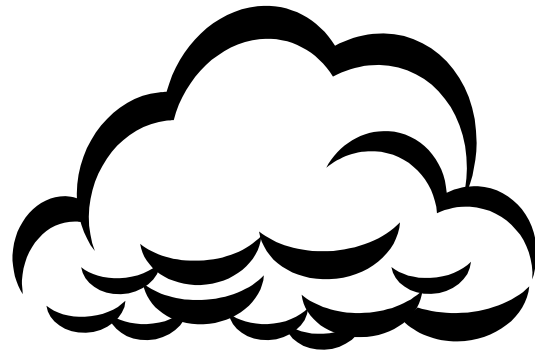
When soil or rock are carried away by water, wind, or other rocks, it is called **EROSION**. Plant roots help prevent erosion by keeping the soil in place.





**SNOW**

**WIND**



**CLOUD COVER**



**RAIN**



**TEMPERATURE**