

Wind Erosion



Materials per group: container, sand, rocks or gravel, straws, ruler, string, cup

Safety goggles for each student and teacher

Procedure

1. Put on safety goggles.
2. Carefully pour the sand into the pan to form a small hill.
3. Measure the height of the hill and the circumference of the base of the hill (may use a string). Sketch a picture of your hill and include the measurements.
4. Using the straw, blow gently on the hill for 15 to 30 seconds. Make sure you do not blow the sand out of the pan.
5. Measure the height and the circumference. Draw a sketch of your hill after the wind erosion has occurred, include the measurements.
6. Carefully pour the sand back into the cup.
7. Again, pour the sand back onto the pan to form another small hill.
8. Carefully place the rocks and gravel on top of the hill. Measure the height and circumference.
9. Draw a picture of the new hill with the rocks and gravel on top. Be sure to include the measurements.
10. Using the straw, blow gently on the hill for 15 to 30 seconds. Measure and draw a sketch of the hill again. Include measurements.
11. Analyze your sketches using math.

What do you know about wind as an agent of erosion?

What role does the rock play in erosion?