Forces That Shape the Earth

**What is Weathering?**

1. A force that breaks down rocks into smaller pieces by natural processes is called

2. Freezing water, moving water, plants, and animals cause the breaking down of rock called

.

3. Oxygen and acids cause the breaking down of rock by changes in its chemical composition called

.

**Which forces carry and drop?**

4. The picking up and removing of rock pieces and other particles is called

5. The dropping off of particles in another location is called

6. Erosion and deposition are primarily caused by and water.

**How does moving water change the land?**

7. Rivers that flow from a high elevation carve and cut through layers of rock to shape the land.

8. When a glacier melts, the rocks it carried fall to the ground in a jumble called

9. When a glacier melts, the rocks and sediment it held pile in front of or alongside the glacier form a

.

**How is soil formed?**

10. Weathering results in , a mixture of weathered rock, air, water, living things, and humus that can support the growth of rooted plants.

11. Decayed plant and animal remains make up which can be found in topsoil.

12. Water passes through soil easily because pores in the soil are connected.

**Why is soil important?**

13. Rain, runoff, and decaying plants and animals naturally resupply the soil with

14. Improper care of soil, developing land for building, and dumping wastes into soil do not allow the soil’s minerals to be .

**Match the term to its definition.**

a. deposition

b. erosion

c. humus

d. mass wasting

e. moraine

f. sediment

g. soil

h. till

i. weathering

1. loose pieces of minerals, rock, and organic material carried and deposited by rivers

2. a process that happens when gravity pulls materials slowly downhill

3. particles carried by erosion from another location

4. rocks break down into smaller pieces by natural processes

5. form along the sides of and in front of glaciers and left behind as they melt

6. rock pieces and other particles are picked up and removed

7. material carried by glaciers and fall to the ground in a jumble when they melt

8. material made of decayed plant and animal remains

9. material made of weathered rock, air, water, living things, and humus