

Elwha River Restoration

River Flows and Sediment Movement

Vocabulary Notes

**V-shaped valley:**

**Terrace/bench:**

**Rapids:**

**Waterfall:**

**Kolk:**

**Plucking:**

**Gorge:**

**VOCABULARY TERMS:**

* **V-shaped valley**: A steep valley carved by a fast-flowing river that takes on a shape that resembles a V.
* **Terrace/bench**: A generally flat area elevated above a river, which at one time was the former riverbed, before the river eroded deeper into the basin.
* **Rapids**: A sudden change in gradient, particularly over erosion-resistant materials, will cause the river to become turbulent and the velocity increases.
* **Waterfall**: A cascade of falling water where there is a vertical or almost vertical step in a river.
* **Kolk**: A vortex in a fast-flowing river, which plucks river bed material, forming a depression in the rock and often a pool or pond.
* **Plucking**: The removal of stones from a riverbed or bedrock by the erosional force of moving water.
* **Gorge**: A deep, narrow section of a river caused by erosion into the bedrock.



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**Reflection Journal 1**

Try to remember what you’ve learned about erosion in other science classes then write down what you know already know about erosion.

What questions do you have about erosion?



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**Reflection Journal 2**

Where have you seen V-shaped valleys? What other landforms have you seen that might have been formed by the erosional force of fast-moving water?

What new questions do you have about river flows and sediment movement?