

Erosion [Erosion.pptx](#)

- What is Erosion?
 - Erosion is defined as removal of rocks and soil by wind, water, ice and gravity.
 - Wind, water, ice and gravity are also known as the agents of erosion.
- Weathering vs. Erosion
 - Weathering involves two processes [*physical, chemical*] that often work together to break down rocks. Both processes occur in place. No movement is involved in weathering.
- Wind Erosion
 - Wind can play a role by carrying material (especially sand and clay) from one place to another. As the wind blows, it picks up small particles of sand/sediment and blasts large rocks with the sand/sediment, cutting and shaping the rock. The intensity of wind erosion is determined by: Sum (amount of sand), Speed, Slope and Surface
- Water Erosion
 - When rain falls to the Earth it can evaporate, sink into the ground, or flow over the land as Runoff. When it flows over land, erosion occurs. Runoff picks up pieces of rock and "runs" downhill cutting tiny grooves (called rills) into the land. How much erosion takes place is determined by the: Sum (amount of water), Slope, Speed, Surface
- Ice Erosion
 - Glaciers wear down the landscape; by picking up and carrying debris that moves across the land along with the ice. Glaciers can pick up and carry sediment that ranges in size from sand grains to boulders bigger than houses. Moving like a conveyor belt and a bulldozer, a single glacier can move millions of tons of material! How much erosion takes place is determined by the: Sum (Glaciers are massive!), Slope, Speed, and Surface
- Gravity Erosion
 - Gravity Erosion is better known as Mass Movement and is defined as the transfer of rock and soil down-slope by direct action of gravity without a flowing medium

(such as water or ice). Some of the best examples of Mass Movement are: Creep, Rock fall, Slump, Landslides, Avalanches

Karst

- A type of landscape where caves are common. The land has different sized blocks of limestone. These fractures are where the water seeps in, dissolves the stone, and forms caves.
- How does this affect us? Humans are constantly influencing the nature of our landscapes. HOUSES, ROADS, BUILDINGS, DEVELOPMENTS, CANALS, etc., all change the shape and appearance of the land