Weather or Not?

Objective

Experiment the effects weathering has on rocks.

Materials

- Tin cans
- Sedimentary rocks
- Other rocks
- Water
- Chart paper

Steps

1. Place one sedimentary rock in the can and shake. Empty the can.
2. Record the results on the chart.
3. Put the sedimentary rock back in the can with some other rocks. Shake. Empty the can.
4. Record the results on the chart.
5. Put the sedimentary rock back in the can with a little bit of water. Shake. Empty the can.
6. Record the results on the chart.

Conclusion

- What test causes more weathering?
- Why do sedimentary rocks weather so easily?

Name _____ Date _____

Weather or Not?

Introduction

Have you ever wondered how bigger rocks have become smaller rocks? There are so many ways that rocks are broken down and made into smaller rocks. This is called weathering. Weathering happens every day. It is caused in many different ways through forces of nature or types of chemical reactions.

Weathering: the process of breaking down rock and other materials into smaller pieces.

Sedimentary Rocks: rocks that are layered, built up from smaller particles such as sands, silts and clays.

Materials Needed:

- Tin cans
- Sedimentary rocks
- Other rocks
- Water
- Chart paper

Procedures:

1. Describe the 3 main ways rocks are weathered.

   _____

   _____

2. Place one sedimentary rock in the can and shake. Empty the can.
3. Record the results on the chart.
4. How does the rock look? What has changed?

   _____

   _____

5. Put the sedimentary rock back in the can with other rocks. Shake. Empty the can.
6. Record the results on the chart.
7. How does the rock look? What has changed?

_____

_____

8. Put the sedimentary rock back in the can with a little bit of water. Shake. Empty the can.
9. Record the results on the chart.
10. How does the rock look? What has changed?

_____

_____

Experiment	Results
Rock alone	
With other rocks	
With water	

11. Which test caused more weathering to occur?

_____

_____

12. Why do sedimentary rocks weather so easily?

_____

_____