

Disclaimer: This packet is intended ONLY for the use of students enrolled in Leon County Schools.

This document provides a breakdown of activities per week. Please check off the pages as they are completed.

2nd Grade

Week 1:

- ☐ **ReadWorks: Our Solar System**
- ☐ **ReadWorks: Comparing Solids**

Week 2:

- ☐ **Moving things**
- ☐ **Name that critter!**
- ☐ **Bend it! Stretch it! Squash it!**

Week 3:

- ☐ **ReadWorks: April Showers**
- ☐ **ReadWorks: What Is a Rock?**

Week 4:

- ☐ **ReadWorks: A Grand Old Canyon**
- ☐ **ReadWorks: Weathering and Erosion**

Week

4

A Grand Old Canyon

by Linda Ruggieri



Canyons are deep valleys surrounded by rocky cliffs. One of the most famous canyons in the world is in the Arizona desert in the United States. It is called the Grand Canyon.

The Grand Canyon stretches for 277 miles. That is a long distance! If you were in a car traveling at highway speed, it would take you about five hours to go that far.

The cliffs of the Grand Canyon are made of brown, red, and yellow rocks and sand. It is one mile from the top of the cliffs to the floor of the canyon. The Colorado River flows along the canyon floor.

Nature has shaped the Grand Canyon. For millions of years, scientists say, wind and water hit the canyon's rocks and sand. Strong winds blew on the cliffs. Rain and river water wore down the rocks. Together, the wind and water created the canyon we see today.

Even today, wind and water continue to change the canyon by reshaping the rocks and battering the cliffs. The change is very slow, but it never stops. A million years from now, the Grand Canyon will look very different.

floor

floor

Definition

noun

1. the lowest surface of any building or structure.

The floor of our old car is rusted.

2. a level of a building.

Her office is on the tenth floor.

Advanced Definition

noun

1. the lowest surface in a room, on which one stands.

The dog lay on the floor under the table.

2. the lowest supporting surface of any structure, such as a vehicle.

Her coffee spilled all over the floor of the car.

3. the ground surface.

The divers explored the ocean floor.

The forest floor is home to many types of fungi.

4. a level of a building.

My office is on the tenth floor.

5. the right to speak to a group of people, as in a governmental assembly.

Who has the floor?

transitive verb

1. to cover with or provide with a floor.
2. to knock to the floor.

The fighter was floored by a quick combination.

3. to throw into great confusion or consternation.

The news about her son floored me.

4. to press (an automobile accelerator) to the floor.

These are some examples of how the word or forms of the word are used:

1. For one thing, this new house was much too brown. All the **floors** were stained dark brown, and the furniture was either leather or beatup old wood.
2. A building can get dirty, especially when a lot of people go into it. The janitor sweeps and mops the **floors** so that the dirt brought in gets cleaned up.
3. One day, Sylvia was cleaning up the store while some bread was baking in the oven. She mopped the **floors**, wiped all the crumbs and flour off of the counters, and cleaned out the old things from the refrigerator.

surround sur round

Definition

verb

1. to form a circle around something.

The police surrounded the house.

Their house is surrounded by trees.

Advanced Definition

transitive verb

1. to encompass by closing off all sides.

The wall surrounds the town.

2. to form in a circle around; encircle.

Fans surrounded him after the concert.

3. to enclose in order to prevent communication or escape.

The police surrounded the building.

noun

1. anything that surrounds something.
-

These are some examples of how the word or forms of the word are used:

1. Your body is constantly under attack. Dirt and germssurround your body. Only one thing stands between dirt and the organs inside your body--skin.
2. In the Eastern Hemisphere there are the Indian and the Arctic Oceans. The Southern Ocean surrounds Antarctica and the South Pole. These five oceans make up one large "world ocean."
3. It's funny how quickly the scenery changed. We'd gone from our little town and neighborhood-not a city, by any stretch, but at least populated-to the country, where a house seemed surrounded by a mile of corn on every side.
4. Vikings were not only fierce pirates; they were also the best shipbuilders of their time. Their masterful wooden ships were perfect for warfare. They were faster and stronger than those of other cultures. Water travel was the primary means of transportation for the Vikings. Most of Scandinavia is surrounded by water.
5. The architecture and design of Kyoto's older buildings is amazing. The Old Imperial Palace was built in 794. It was designed to be a graceful and elegant royal home. But there's another building which is even more breathtaking. It is called the Golden Pavilion. Built in 1397, this impressive structure sits in the middle of a gorgeous lake surrounded by well-maintained gardens.

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

1. What are canyons?

- A. rushing water that flows between rocky cliffs
- B. cliffs made of brown, red, and yellow rocks and sand
- C. deep valleys surrounded by rocky cliffs

2. What does the article explain?

- A. how to get from the top of the Grand Canyon to the bottom
- B. how scientists have gathered information about the Grand Canyon
- C. how the Grand Canyon we see today was created

3. "A million years from now, the Grand Canyon will look very different."

What evidence from the article supports this statement?

- A. "Even today, wind and water continue to change the canyon by reshaping the rocks and battering the cliffs."
- B. "For millions of years, scientists say, wind and water hit the canyon's rocks and sand."
- C. "The cliffs of the Grand Canyon are made of brown, red, and yellow rocks and sand."

4. Why might the Grand Canyon be one of the most famous canyons in the world?

- A. It stretches over a long distance.
- B. It was made by nature.
- C. It will look very different a million years from now.

5. What is the main idea of the article?

- A. Canyons are deep valleys surrounded by rocky cliffs that can be made of brown, red, and yellow rocks.
- B. It is one mile from the top of the Grand Canyon to the bottom, where the Colorado River flows.
- C. The Grand Canyon is a long, famous canyon that was shaped by nature over millions of years.

6. Read this paragraph from the article.

"The Grand Canyon stretches for 277 miles. That is a long distance! If you were in a car traveling at highway speed, it would take you about five hours to go that far."

Why does the author tell readers how long it would take to go 277 miles by car?

- A. to help readers understand how long the Grand Canyon is
- B. to convince readers that driving is a better way to get somewhere than walking
- C. to encourage readers to drive to the Grand Canyon and see it for themselves

7. The Grand Canyon is 277 miles long and one mile tall, _____ it is longer than it is tall.

- A. so
- B. because
- C. but

8. What are the cliffs of the Grand Canyon made of?

9. Explain how wind and water shaped the Grand Canyon we see today. Support your answer with evidence from the article.

10. "A million years from now, the Grand Canyon will look very different."

What might the Grand Canyon look like a million years from now? Support your answer with evidence from the article.

Weathering and Erosion

by Rachelle Kreisman



Nature is always changing. Those changes are called natural events. Some natural events happen quickly. Think of a fire that starts when lightning strikes a tree. Other events occur slowly, such as when rocks are worn down over hundreds of years. This happens because of weathering and erosion.

Weathering is what happens when a part of a rock is loosened. Parts of rocks are usually loosened by nature. Erosion (ih-ROH-jzun) happens after weathering. It is the process of moving water, moving ice, or wind carrying away a part of a rock.

Moving water can cause weathering and erosion. Have you ever seen waves crash against rocks on the shore? The water can chip off small pieces of rock and carry them away. As more waves hit the rocks, more

pieces are chipped off and carried away. Because of this, the rocks get smaller and smaller over time.

Moving ice can cause weathering and erosion. Some mountains have solid sheets of ice near the top. During warmer weather, a bit of ice melts. Then the sheet of ice may move slowly down the mountain. As the solid ice moves, it scrapes rocks, breaking off pieces. Then the pieces are taken away by the moving ice.

Wind also causes weathering and erosion. Wind can blow sand and dirt. It can carry the dirt far away. In some places, strong wind will push sand against rocks. Over a long period of time, the wind wears down those rocks.

Name: _____ **Date:** _____**1. What is erosion?**

- A. the process of moving water, moving ice, or wind carrying away a part of a rock
- B. the process of a part of a rock loosened usually by nature
- C. a natural event that happens quickly, such as lightning striking a tree

2. Weathering and erosion are effects. What can cause weathering and erosion?

- A. lightning, fire, or a tree
- B. moving water, moving ice, or wind
- C. pieces of rock, sand, or dirt

3. Weathering and erosion wear down rocks over a long time. What evidence in the text supports this statement?

- A. "Moving water can cause weathering and erosion. . . . The water can chip off small pieces of rock and carry them away."
- B. "Moving ice can cause weathering and erosion. . . . During warmer weather, a bit of ice melts."
- C. "Wind also causes weathering and erosion. . . . Over a long period of time, the wind wears down those rocks."

4. Read this paragraph from the article.

"Wind also causes weathering and erosion. Wind can blow sand and dirt. It can carry the dirt far away. In some places, strong wind will push sand against rocks. Over a long period of time, the wind wears down those rocks."

What can you infer from this paragraph about the strength of wind and how fast it wears down rocks?

- A. The stronger the wind blows, the faster it wears down rocks.
- B. The stronger the wind blows, the more slowly it wears down rocks.
- C. A wind's strength has no effect on how fast it wears down rocks.

5. What is the main idea of this text?

- A. Solid sheets of ice can cause weathering and erosion as they move slowly down a mountain.
- B. Weathering and erosion are natural events that slowly wear down rocks.
- C. Waves can chip off pieces of rock and turn them into sand.

6. Read this paragraph from the article.

"Moving water can cause weathering and erosion. Have you ever seen waves crash against rocks on the shore? The water can chip off small pieces of rock and carry them away. As more waves hit the rocks, more pieces are chipped off and carried away. Because of this, the rocks get smaller and smaller over time."

Why does the author ask the question, "Have you ever seen waves crash against rocks on the shore?"

- A. to suggest that readers visit a beach in order to better understand weathering and erosion
- B. to help readers who have never been to a beach imagine what a beach looks like
- C. to help readers see how moving water can cause weathering and erosion

7. A sheet of ice on a mountain can cause weathering and erosion _____ it moves down the mountain.

- A. when
- B. before
- C. after

8. What is the definition of a natural event?

9. What happens to rocks on the shore of a beach when they are hit by moving water?

10. Imagine a beach with big waves and several large rocks along its shore. What might change about that beach in five hundred years? Support your answer with evidence from the article.