

**Project FOCUS  
Best Lessons  
THIRD GRADE**

**Title of Lesson:** Effects of Weathering & Erosion

**Theme:** Earth/Space Science

**Unit Number:** 4      **Unit Title:** Rocks, Minerals, Soil and Fossils

**Performance Standard(s) Covered (enter codes):**

S3E1.

**Enduring Standards (objectives of activity):**

**Habits of Mind**

- Asks questions
- Uses numbers to quantify
- Works in a group
- Uses tools to measure and view
- Looks at how parts of things are needed
- Describes and compares using physical attributes
- Observes using senses
- Draws and describes observations

**Content (key terms and topics covered):**

Weathering & Erosion

**Learning Activity (Description in Steps)**

**Abstract (limit 100 characters):** The students use what they have learned about weathering and erosion to explain their findings.

**Details:** First we gave them a worksheet which consisted of an area for predictions, an area to draw what happened before and after the wind, an area to draw what happened before and after the water, and area to explain their findings. Then we explained the activity to the students and had them write in their prediction. Then we went outside to the sandy volleyball area. The students filled their tray with sand and shaped the sand into a mountain. Then they filled in their worksheet. They used the straw to blow the sand to signify the effects of wind. Then they filled in their worksheets. Then they used their cups which were already filled with water and poured the water over the mountain of sand. Then they filled in their findings. They dumped the sand out and filled in the worksheet with an explanation.

**Materials Needed (Type and Quantity):**

sand

tray: 1 per group

measuring cup (liquid): 1 per group

water

straw: 1 per person

**worksheet: 1 per person**

**Notes and Tips (suggested changes, alternative methods, cautions):**

**Let the students know ahead of time so they will wear appropriate clothing and warn them not to inhale the sand through the straw.**

**Sources/References:**

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)