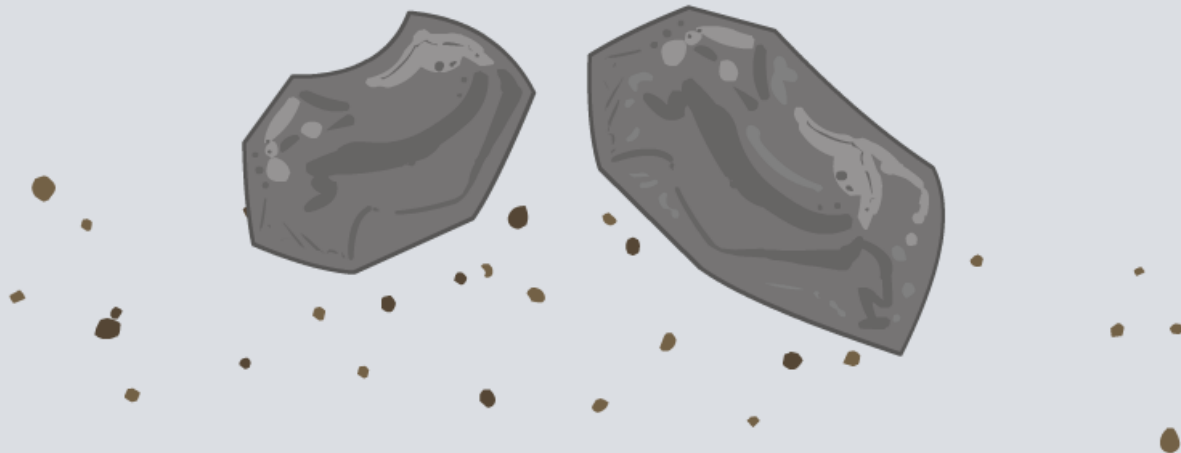
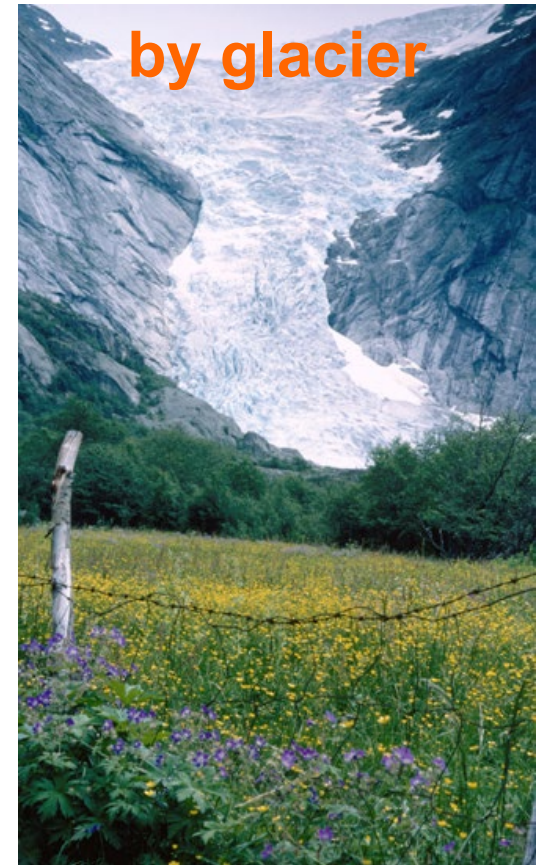


Erosion, Transportation and Deposition



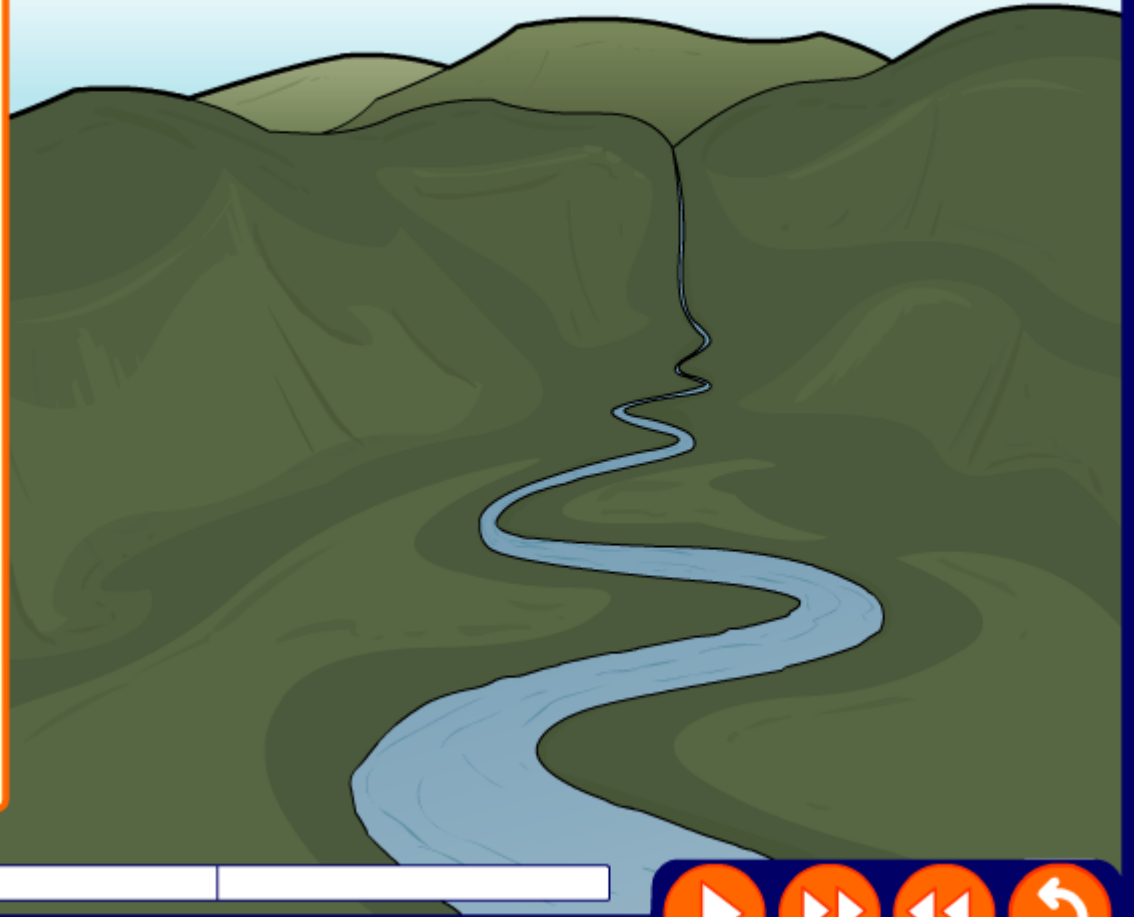
As a rock is weathered, pieces of it fall off. This is called **erosion**. They will then be transported away by water, wind or glaciers.



What happens to weathered rock?

Weathered rocks that break apart at the top of a mountain will eventually be transported to the base.

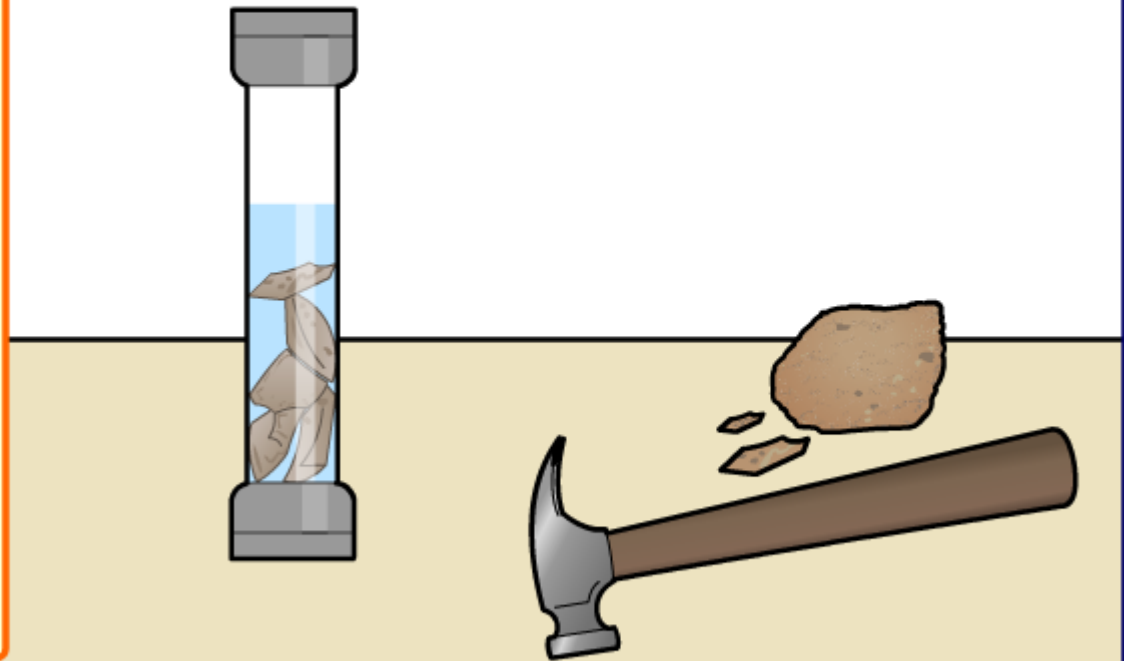
Click "**play**" to find out how.



How do rocks change during transportation?

Pieces of rock become smaller and more smooth and rounded as they are transported.

Click "**play**" to find out why this happens.



What is deposition?

Deposition occurs after erosion and transportation.

This is the process that occurs when pieces of weathered rock sink to the bottom of the riverbed or ocean, forming sediment.

Eventually this sediment gets so squashed down that it forms new rock, called sedimentary rock.



Rock particles being transported by the wind cause erosion.

Wind erosion has two major effects:

- Small particles picked up by the wind are deposited in new places.

For example, this is how sand dunes are formed.



- When the particles are suspended in the air they can hit objects and cause them to chip and wear down (think of how sand grains sting when the wind blows them against your skin at the beach).



Transportation by glacier

A glacier is a mass of ice that gradually moves overland.

As the glacier moves, the stones and rocks in its path become incorporated into the base. The forward motion of the glacier causes the trapped rocks to rotate, scrape and grind along the ground.

This friction weathers the landscape and causes valleys and fjords to form.

Over time the smaller pieces of rock are carried into the melt water streams that surround the glacier, where they are redeposited on the ground.

