

# Weathering and Erosion



**WEATHERING** is the breaking down of rocks into small \_\_\_\_\_ such as sand and \_\_\_\_\_. There are 2 types of weathering – physical and chemical weathering.

**Physical Weathering** can be of several types:

- ◆ Exfoliation (or flaking) of rocks due to \_\_\_\_\_ in extremely high daytime \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ in very cold night time temperatures
- ◆ Expansion of ice in cracks of the rock, where water in the cracks freezes and \_\_\_\_\_ to break the rock
- ◆ Abrasion by particles such as \_\_\_\_\_ carried by wind or water
- ◆ Damage from tree \_\_\_\_\_
- ◆ Damage from animals walking or by \_\_\_\_\_ such as cars and bulldozers

**Chemical Weathering** occurs when natural chemicals break down rocks. Examples are:

- ◆ Slightly \_\_\_\_\_ rain that has been combined with carbon dioxide in the \_\_\_\_\_ slowly deteriorates rocks over time
- ◆ Acids from decaying plants such as \_\_\_\_\_ also breaks down rocks

**EROSION** is the process of \_\_\_\_\_ the small rock particles such as sand and pebbles. The main agents of erosion are:

- ◆ Water (in \_\_\_\_\_, ocean waves and glaciers)
- ◆ Wind
- ◆ G \_\_\_\_\_ (when rocks fall from a cliff face or in a mudslide)
- ◆ Animals and machinery