Land on the Move

Compare how Earth builds and breaks land.

E.3.7B.4 "Compare and contrast constructive (e.g., deposition, volcano) and destructive (e.g., weathering, erosion, earthquake) processes of the Earth."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline details that show land being built up. Circle details that show land being worn away or broken apart.

Changes Along the Water

1. After a storm, Mia walks beside a river near the sea. Fast water carries bits of rock and sand away from the riverbank. This moving of earth from one place to another is erosion. Some rocks beside the water crack into smaller pieces as rain and wind wear them down. That slow breaking is weathering. Both processes change land by wearing it away or breaking it apart.

2. Farther downstream, the river slows as it meets the sea. Sand that the water carried drops to the bottom. Over time, the sand piles up and makes a new strip of land. This is deposition. Erosion took sand away from the riverbank, but deposition adds sand in a new place. Both can happen along the same river, even on the same day.

3. Across the sea, a volcano sends out hot melted rock called lava. When lava cools, it becomes hard rock and can build new land. An earthquake can shake the ground and crack the land or cause a hillside to fall. A volcano may build land, while an earthquake can break it apart. These changes can happen much faster than the slow wearing of rocks beside Mia's river.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How do erosion and deposition change the amount of land in a place differently?

2. How are weathering and an earthquake alike? How can their speeds differ?

3. How are a volcano and deposition alike? What different materials build land in each process?

4. How can a volcano and an earthquake change land in opposite ways?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine a rocky island with a volcano. In three sentences, describe how two processes from the passage could change your island, one that builds land and one that breaks or wears it away, then compare their effects.

ANSWER KEY

Land on the Move

GRADE 3 · E.3.7B.4

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline details that show land being built up. Circle details that show land being worn away or broken apart. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How do erosion and deposition change the amount of land in a place differently?	**Erosion carries sand away from the riverbank. Deposition drops sand in a new place, where it can build land.**
2	How are weathering and an earthquake alike? How can their speeds differ?	**Both can break land or rock apart. Weathering is slow, but an earthquake can change land quickly.**
3	How are a volcano and deposition alike? What different materials build land in each process?	**Both can build land. A volcano adds cooled lava, while deposition adds sand.**
4	How can a volcano and an earthquake change land in opposite ways?	**Lava from a volcano can cool and build new land. An earthquake can crack land or cause a hillside to fall.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

On my island, lava from a volcano cools into rock and adds land along the shore. Rain slowly breaks old rocks into smaller pieces through weathering. The volcano builds land, but weathering breaks rock apart.

Accept any accurate comparison supported by the passage. For Part 3, look for three sentences that name two processes, describe an original island example for each, and compare their effects.