

Landform Builders

Trace how moving Earth materials reshape the land.

5.10.C “model and identify how changes to Earth’s surface by wind, water, or ice result in the formation of landforms, including deltas, canyons, and sand dunes.”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline phrases that show wind, water, or ice moving material. Circle phrases that show material being worn away or dropped, so you can track how landforms form.

Moving Materials, Changing Land

- ① Earth's surface changes when moving wind, water, and ice pick up and drop rock and soil. This movement is called erosion when material is carried away, and deposition when it settles. During a storm, a rushing stream can lift loose soil from a hillside and carry it downstream. The water may later slow and leave the soil in a new place.
- ② A river can shape a canyon over a very long time. Flowing water rubs against cracks in rock and carries away tiny pieces. As the river cuts deeper, steep sides rise above its channel. The Grand Canyon formed mainly as the Colorado River wore away layers of rock, while weathering helped loosen material. This slow change lasts for millions of years.
- ③ At a river's mouth, water often slows as it enters a lake or ocean. Sand and mud settle there in a broad, often fan-shaped deposit called a delta. Wind can also move sand grains across dry ground. Where wind loses speed, it drops the grains, building sand dunes. Glaciers, which are large moving masses of ice, scrape rock and push sediment as they travel, changing land.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What happens to the soil after storm water slows down?

2 How does a river form a canyon over time? Name two actions of the water.

3 Compare the formation of a delta and a sand dune. What moves the material in each landform, and what happens when that mover slows?

4 What are two ways a glacier changes Earth's surface, according to the passage?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose a delta, canyon, or sand dune. Draw three panels to model how wind or water changes the surface to form it. Label the moving material in each panel, then write one sentence explaining how the landform forms.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline phrases that show wind, water, or ice moving material. Circle phrases that show material being worn away or dropped, so you can track how landforms form. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What happens to the soil after storm water slows down?	The soil is left in a new place, or deposited.
2	How does a river form a canyon over time? Name two actions of the water.	The water rubs against and wears away rock, carries away tiny pieces, and cuts deeper into the land.
3	Compare the formation of a delta and a sand dune. What moves the material in each landform, and what happens when that mover slows?	Water moves sand and mud to form a delta, and wind moves sand to form a dune. When the water or wind slows, it drops the material.
4	What are two ways a glacier changes Earth's surface, according to the passage?	A glacier scrapes rock and pushes sediment as it moves.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Panel 1: Wind blows loose sand across flat ground. Panel 2: Wind slows behind a rock and drops sand. Panel 3: A pile of sand grows into a dune. Sentence: Wind forms a sand dune when it drops sand grains after losing speed.

Accept equivalent descriptions of erosion, deposition, and the movement of rock, soil, sand, mud, or sediment. For the three-panel model, check that the chosen agent moves material and that deposition or wearing away leads to the chosen landform.