



Daily Dose of Science Challenge: Signs of Spring

Take a walk around your block or to a park and look for evidence of weathering, erosion and deposition.

Background:

The forces that change the shape of the earth (and the shape of our roads, sidewalks, lawns and streambeds) are weathering, erosion and deposition. You can think of weathering as breaking things apart, erosion is moving it around and deposition is where it lands!

Activity:

Find evidence of weathering. What will you look for? When you think you found a good example, take a picture or draw what you see and identify it. Make a note about why you think that is an example of weathering.

Find evidence of erosion. What will you look for? When you think you found a good example, take a picture or draw what you see and identify it. Make a note about why you think that is an example of erosion.

Find evidence of deposition. What will you look for? When you think you found a good example, take a picture or draw what you see and identify it. Make a note about why you think that is an example of deposition.

Extension:

Why do sidewalks and roads break more in the spring? These are all signs of physical weathering. Think about changes in weather. What happens when cracks in roads or rocks freeze then thaw then freeze then thaw. Try putting a raw egg in the freezer then observe what happens.

Why do you think it's important for streambeds to be protected with vegetation? Did you see more erosion where there was vegetation or where there was just dirt?

Can you find evidence of deposition by water and evidence of deposition by wind?

Experiment:

- Question: Can you use water to break a rock?
- Observations and background research: What do you already know and what can you learn before you try this experiment.
- Hypothesis: If I (do this) then (this) will happen
- Test: Try it - see what happens
- Evaluate: Was your hypothesis correct? If not, what would you like to change before you try it again?

Go further:

Many resources will allow you to track the temperatures over the past month. Make a graph showing the low and high temperatures every day for the last month in Casper. Can you identify times of freezing and thawing? Explain how this information can help explain physical weathering in our city.

Share:

Post your pictures, drawings or make a video and post it to #DailyDoseofScience on the Science Zone's Facebook page.

