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Activities

Sedimentary Rock Recipe

Name: _____ Date: _____

Start with little bits of rock. Add wind and water. Apply pressure. Add mineral "glue" and lots of time. Sprinkle on some erosion. Presto! Sedimentary rock! In this Planet Diary activity, you'll take a scientific look at this "recipe."

Directions

- Check out this recipe for making a Quartz Sandstone Outcrop. Look at the picture of the sandstone formation you'll "bake" in this activity. Read the sidebar *Sedimentary Processes: Overview*, then answer Workspace question 1.
- Click *Next* to go to *Weathering and Transport*. Advance by clicking the right arrow above the picture. Read the sidebar on the right, then answer questions 2 and 3.
- Continue to *Deposition*. Click the right arrow to see the slides, then read the sidebar. Answer question 4.
- Complete the recipe at *Burial*. Click *Start Burial* for animation showing how this occurs. Read the sidebar, then answer question 5.
- Congatulations! You've made your sedimentary rock. But you can't see it yet. It's still buried far below the surface. Continue to *Erosion and Landscape* and click *Start Erosion* to see how it gets to the surface. Answer the last question.

Workspace

1. What are the two main "ingredients" in the sandstone "recipe"?

2. How do the forces of mechanical and chemical weathering work together to break down the rock?

3. How are newly-formed sediments transported?

4. In what types of environments is deposition most likely to occur?

5. What glues sediments together?

6. What role does erosion play in the process?

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