Wind Erosion and Weathering Lab

**Objective:**

Observe simple events and report observations to understand the basics of wind erosion and its effect on shaping the Earth.

**Materials:**

- a cup of holes from a paper punch or paper confetti

- A box lid

- 30 rocks or wooden blocks

**PROCEDURES:**

1. Ask the students to think about the wind. How does the wind affect us? What things are carried by the wind?

2. Place the paper holes (soil) in the pan to form a layer several holes deep.

3. Have one student come to the front of the room and gently blow into the pan from the side. (Breeze blowing).

4. Predict what would happen if the breeze became stronger.

5. Choose another student to be a stronger breeze and repeat the experiment.

6. Place several rocks or wooden blocks, in the pan and repeat the experiment with the light and strong breezes.

7. Have students record and discuss their observations.

**Data Table**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Prediction | Observation (what happened? what is the pan look like now?) |
| Light breeze no rocks |  |  |
| Strong breeze no rocks |  |  |
| Light breeze with rocks |  |  |
| Strong breeze with rocks |  |  |

**Post Lab Questions:**

1. What happened to the paper holes/soil when classmate 1 blew lightly? Where did the holes end up? Did they move evenly in the pan?

2. How is the movement of paper holes similar to erosion?

3. Discuss how wind affects erosion.

4. What effect does light/strong breeze have on the paper holes( soil)? Relate this to soil erosion.

5. Find 3 examples of erosion in your community. Be prepared to share to the class.