

Module 1
Lessons 6 - 7

Anchor Phenomenon: Formation of the Grand Canyon's Features

Essential Question: How did the Grand Canyon's features form?

Focus Question 2: How are Earth's rock layers uncovered?

Natural materials such as water, air, and plants, exert force on a rock, breaking the rock into smaller pieces such as pebbles and sand.

Examples:

- A plant could push through a rock and break it into smaller pieces.
- Water dripping onto a rock could cause the rock to break apart.
- Water could get into a rock, freeze into ice, and push the rock until it cracked.
- Strong winds cause abrasion by blasting sand against rock surfaces.

Weathering is a process in which a force acts on a rock and breaks it into smaller pieces over time.

Rocks break apart because of weathering from moving water, ice, wind, and plants. More force on rocks cause bigger and faster changes.

