

Name _____ Date _____



How Does Erosion Affect My World? Data Sheet



Directions: Draw a diagram or insert a photograph of the area or situation you are observing below. Include the measurements that indicate the size of the area/situation as well as descriptions and/or measurements of key details observed. Note: The grid below can be used to help you draw a diagram that is to scale. For example, one square inch on paper could represent one square foot of the actual area you are observing.

Important Data/Observations (use the back of this sheet, if needed)

Name _____

Date _____



Dig This! Erosion Investigation *Family Page*



Question(s): How does erosion affect my world? What are the different kinds of erosion? How can I become an erosion expert? How can we take action to solve erosion problems?

What's Happening in Class?

Student teams are making observations on the school grounds to identify evidence of erosion. Classroom activities will include demonstrations of wind, splash, and water erosion, as well as research to build knowledge of other types of erosion, the forces that cause erosion, and problems which can result from erosion. Student teams will develop and present plans for correcting the erosion problems that we identify. For more specific information on this lesson, visit the *Science for Ohio* website at www.environmentaleducationohio.org and click on *Dig This! Erosion Investigation*.

What Can We Do at Home?

- 1) Discuss the following erosion terms at home.
 - erosion*: the wearing away of rock and soil material from the Earth's surface
 - sedimentation*: the process of depositing sediments which have been transported over some time and distance
 - soil*: a loose, thin layer of earth materials composed of decaying organic matter and weathered minerals which provides nutrients, physical support, and adequate amounts of air and water for plant growth
- 2) Take a walk and look around your yard, a public park, or creeks and streams in the area for little signs of erosion that may lead to larger problems. You may notice mud along sidewalks, near street gutters, or even in your yard.
- 3) Plant native shrub or ground cover plants to anchor soil and provide habitat for local wildlife.
- 4) Consult the following resources or visit *Science for Ohio* for additional resources.

Books

How It Works: The Environment
by Michael Allaby
ISBN 1-899762-29-9

Erosion
by Joshua Rutten
ISBN 1-56766-508-X

World Wide Web

BrainPOP.com, an award-winning site, offers original animated movies that answer kids' questions about health, science, and technology. The site provides an interactive quiz while movies load. Visit the site and watch their two-minute *Weathering* or *Wind* movies. <http://www.brainpop.com>