

California Content Standards

5.c. Students know moving water erodes landforms, reshaping the land by taking it away from some places and depositing it as pebbles, sand, silt, and mud in other places (weathering, transport, and deposition).



Key Words:



Erosion —	movement of soil and rocks by waves, wind, water, or ice
Deposition —	when eroded materials are dropped at new locations
Silt —	fine particles of rock (smaller than grains of sand)
Clay —	fine particles of rock (smaller than silt)
Sediment —	tiny pieces of weathered rock and the remains of living things (like shells)

Transportation by Water

Weathered rock of all sizes gets moved along in the water as a river or stream flows along. There are many ways this transportation can happen. The table below gives you some examples.

Size of rocks	How transported	Diagram
Silt and clay (very fine rock pieces).	Mixed into the water.	
Small pebbles and grains of sand.	Bounced along the bottom of the river.	
Bigger rocks.	Pulled along the bottom of the river.	