

VOCABULARY UNIT 5-CHANGES TO THE EARTH'S SURFACE

1. **LANDFORM**- part of Earth's surface that has a certain shape and is formed naturally.
2. **VALLEY**-the low land between mountains or hills which are formed by rivers or moving ice.
3. **CANYON**-a valley with steep sides where some valleys are made by flowing rivers.
4. **MOUNTAINS**-landforms that are much higher than crust push together, they can be formed by volcanoes.
5. **PLAIN**- is a flat land that spreads out over a long distance, they are wide-open spaces and may form where there use to be seas.
6. **PLATEAU**- is a flat but higher than the land around it and are formed when flat land is pushed high up by the movement of Earth's crust.
7. **WEATHERING**-is the breaking down of rock into smaller pieces and is caused by periods of freezing and thawing.
8. **EROSION**- when soil, rock, or sand are moved it can be caused by wind, water and glaciers.
9. **GLACIER**- is a large, thick sheet of moving ice and they slide along slowly they cut paths through the ground. They can move enough soil to form a whole island.
10. **EARTHQUAKE**- is the shaking of Earth's surface that can cause land to rise and fall, they are due to the movement of Earth's crust.
11. **VOLCANO**- is a mountain made of cooled lava, ash, or other materials from eruptions, they are caused by movement of Earth's crust.
12. **FLOOD**- is a change that happens when streams, rivers, or lakes get too full and overflow, they are caused by too much rain in too short a period of time.