

**Weathering ActiveFolder
Activity Cards**

Soil horizon characteristics cards

- covered with litter—leaves, twigs, organic material—which can be changed into humus
- litter helps prevent erosion and evaporation

- contains the fewest rocks and the most humus—dark-colored, decayed organic matter that supplies nutrients to plants

- generally dark and fertile
- also known as topsoil

- contains coarsest sediment and partially weathered rock
- most like parent material

- bottom horizon
- thickest soil horizon

- does not contain much organic material
- not strongly affected by leaching

- less organic material than topsoil
- lighter in color, less humus, less fertile

- contains material from leaching process
- leaching—removal of minerals that have been dissolved in water

- water reacts with humus and carbon dioxide to form acid
- acids dissolve some minerals in topsoil and carry the material into the lower horizon

Weathering and erosion definition cards

process in which surface materials are worn away and transported from one place to another by agents such as gravity, water, wind, and glaciers

chemical or mechanical surface processes that break rock into smaller pieces