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weathering	→	The disintegration and decomposition of rock at or near Earth's surface.
physical weathering	→	The physical breakdown of rocks into smaller pieces without changing the rock's chemical composition.
chemical weathering	→	The breakdown of the minerals in a rock altering the rocks chemical composition.
oxidation	→	Chemical reaction in which a substance combines with O ₂
acid reaction	→	This occurs when water containing carbonic acid dissolves the minerals of a rock.
hydration (hydrolysis)	→	When minerals absorb water and crumble to form clay.
wreathing rate	→	How fast a rock is broken down by weathering. Determined by temp, moisture, composition, surface area.
soil	→	Weathered sediments, minerals, and organic material.
parent material	→	Source bedrock that weathers to help form soils.
soil profile	→	Side view of soil showing all of its layers.
abrasion	→	Physical action of rubbing, grinding, and smoothing of rocks due to movement in an erosional system.
arid	→	A dry, relatively low moisture climate.
humid	→	A wet, relatively high moisture climate.
frost action	→	Physical weathering due to the freezing and expanding of water in rocks prying them apart.
humus	→	Decaying, organic material in the top layer of soil.
acid reaction	→	Chemical weathering of rocks due to the interaction of the rock's minerals with acid.
root wedging	→	The physical prying apart of rocks due to growth and widening of roots in cracks in the rock.
rock resistance	→	The resistance a rock has to weathering. Resistance is determined by the hardness of the rock's minerals.

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