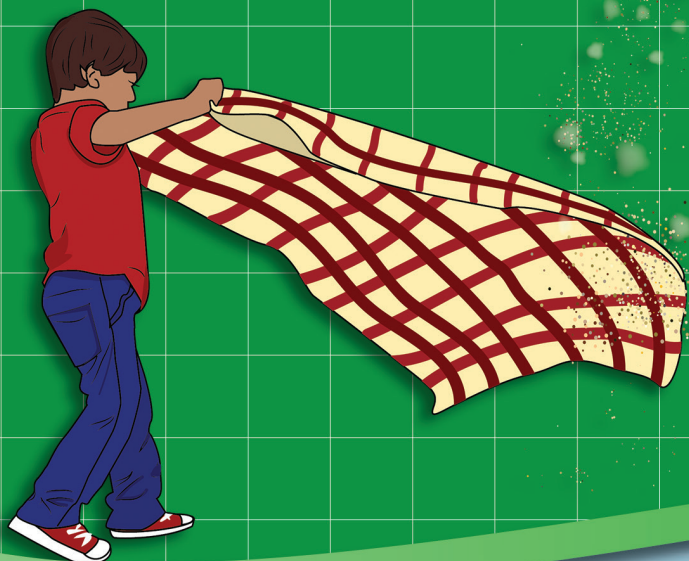
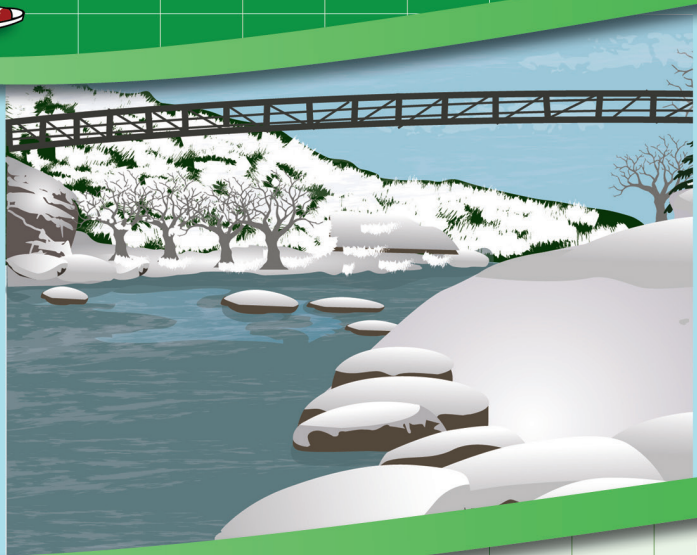
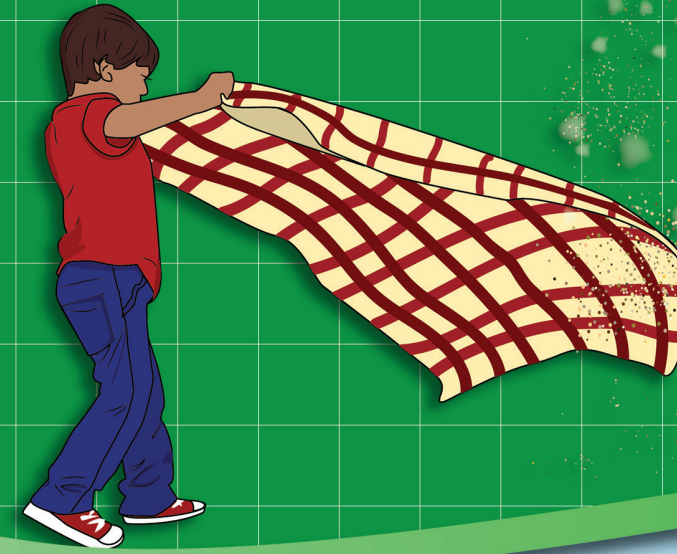




The Adventures of Sandy, the Not-So-Sedentary Sediment



The Adventures of Sandy, the Not-So-Sedentary Sediment



This book was developed in collaboration with Region 4 Education Service Center, Houston, Texas.

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Sandy’s Blog



MUIR OVERLOOK

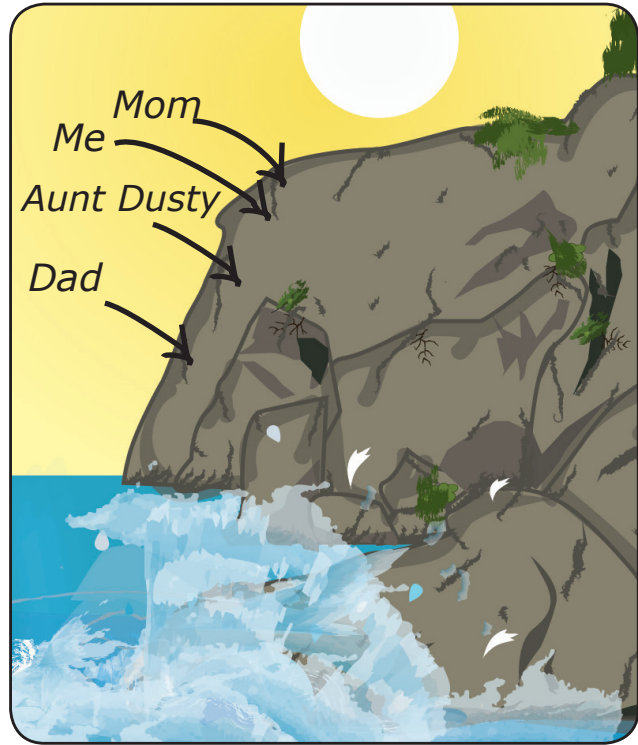
Today, I’m free! I have been writing this blog for so long now, and at times, it seemed like this day would never come. If you are just now following my blog, let me fill you in on a few things. I am from a place just outside San Francisco, California, called Muir Overlook. It is a beautiful place to live except for one thing . . .

Post a Comment

Publish

Preview

Sandy's Blog



. . . my family being right on top of me all the time! No, literally, my family of sediments has been compacted together as sedimentary rock on this cliff for millions of years.

Post a Comment

Publish

Preview

Sandy's Blog



Over time, the waves of the Pacific Ocean, the roots of growing plants, and even the harsh winds have weathered the side of our cliff.

These roots are really pushing us around.

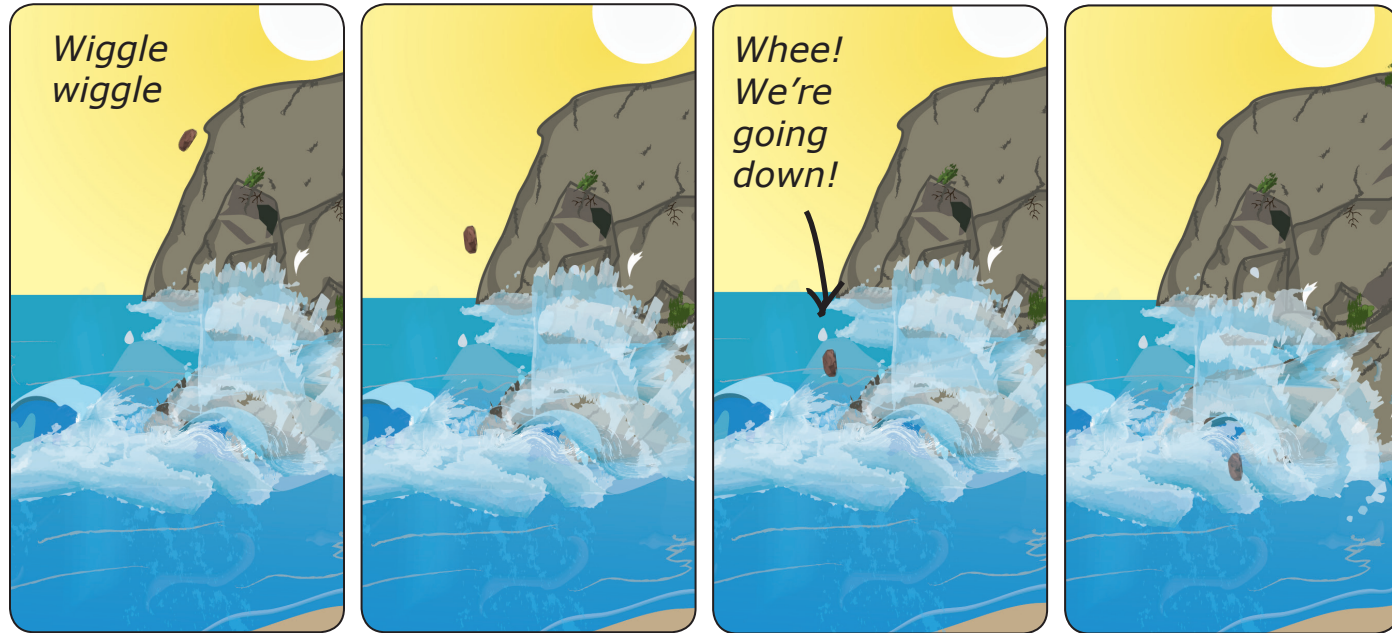
Post a Comment

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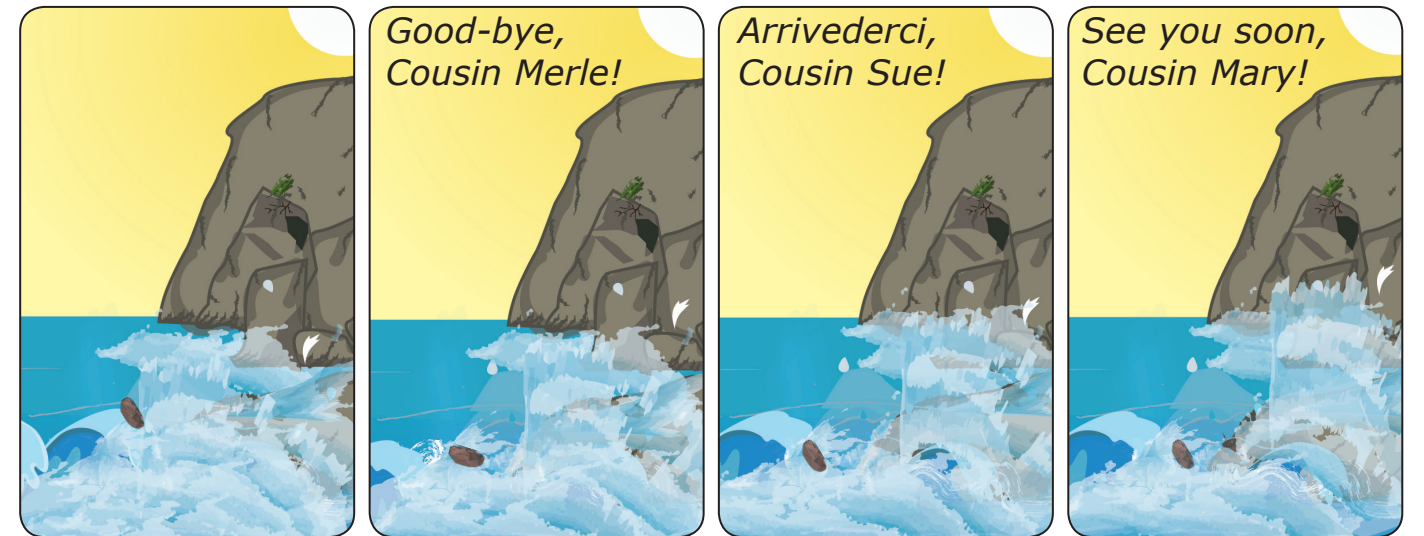
Sandy's Blog

Eventually some of my cousins and I broke off in one large piece of rock and quickly fell into the crashing waves below. We were able to see large boulders, our aunts and uncles who eroded from the cliffs many years earlier. Erosion from gravity brought us all down to where the powerful ocean waves meet the shore.



Sandy's Blog

Back and forth, the dark, cold waters pushed us over and over again, scraping us against the other rocks. Each time, my cousins would break away from the rock as it weathered.



Sandy's Blog



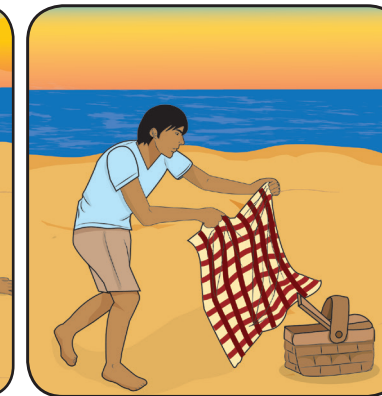
That brings you up to my big news today: my freedom! Finally, after such a long time of weathering as the water pushed my cousins and me back and forth, I am free! I am a single grain of sand, a sediment, all by myself. This slow process of weathering and erosion moved me down from the rocky cliff closer to Muir Beach, where I safely deposited. It took a long time, but it was worth it. Now, I remain here on the beach anxiously waiting for adventure! I will try to blog again soon.

Publish

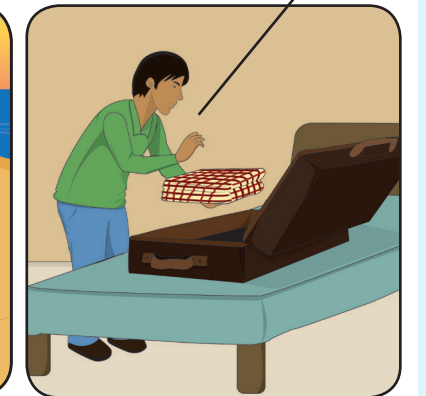
Preview

Sandy's Blog

I asked for adventure, and you will never guess what happened! Just after I signed off from my last blog, a group of humans came, laid a large piece of cloth on top of me, and proceeded to eat outside! That is not the worst part. When they picked up the cloth, I was attached to it! They pushed me into a deep, dark container, and when they took me out of the container, I was in a new place.



Let's go! We don't want to be late to the airport.

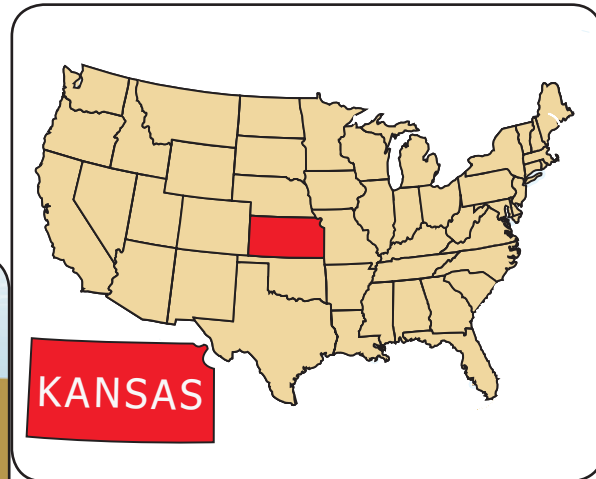
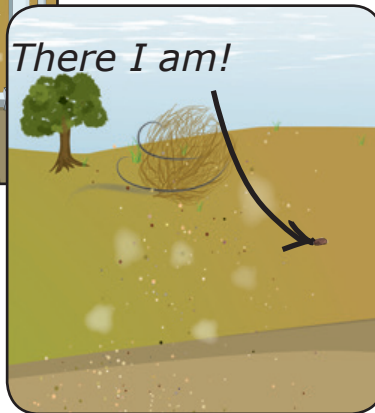


Publish

Preview

Sandy's Blog

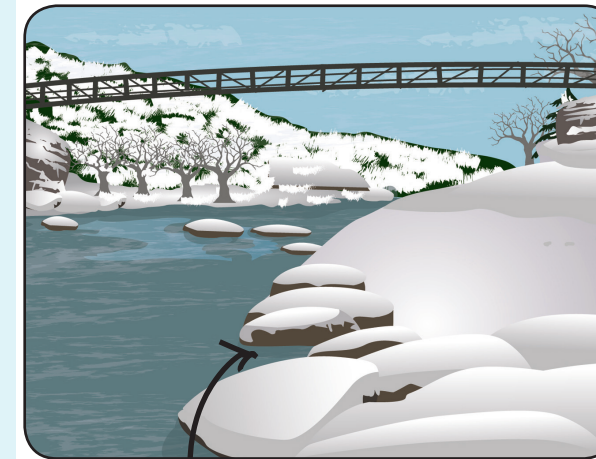
This human shook the piece of cloth, and it sent me flying into the air. Well, the wind was blowing violently that day, and I flew like a bullet across the sky. Another sediment tumbled past me and said we were in Kansas, but the wind was carrying us to the west. Where will the wind take me? The adventure continues!



Publish

Preview

Sandy's Blog



Here I am!

I cannot believe where I deposited. According to a boulder I encountered, this was Colorado, and I was in the water. The boulder explained this was a river, and he had been told it travels to fantastic places. The water was so cold, and from what I could see, the ground along the sides of the river was covered in something white. The other sediments said it was snow. I moved slowly in the tranquil river during the next few months, and I made quite a few friends that winter.

Publish

Preview

Sandy's Blog

Eventually the temperature began to warm up, and the snow melted. The water from the melting snow ran toward the river from the surrounding land. All the extra water caused the river to start moving faster and faster with more and more force. I was hitting the banks of the river, the riverbed, and other rocks and sediments. We were all churning and scraping against each other in the current. I watched as rocks became weathered by the force of the water pushing rocks against other rocks and from the sandblasting action caused by me and my sediment friends moving in the swift waters. My rough edges were smoothing out; small pieces of me were breaking away, leaving me smaller. This fast erosion from the river water eventually separated me from all of my friends and swept me away. I still wonder what happened to all of them. This experience was chaotic, exciting, and a little scary at the same time.

Wow, I'm getting dizzy!



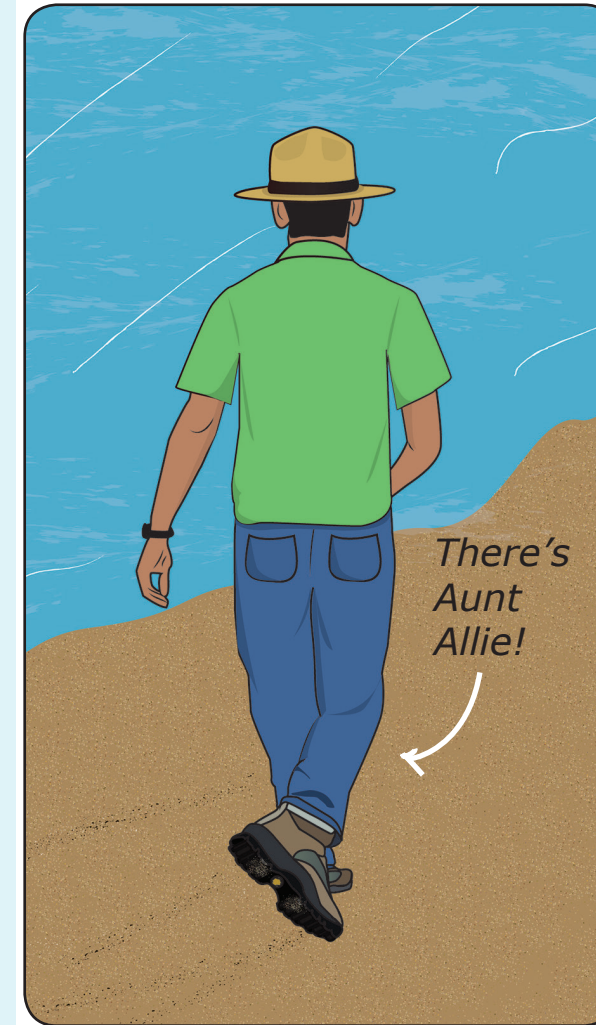
*Look at those rocks scraping!
This brings back memories.*



*Good-bye, friends,
good-bye!*



Sandy's Blog



*There's
Aunt
Allie!*

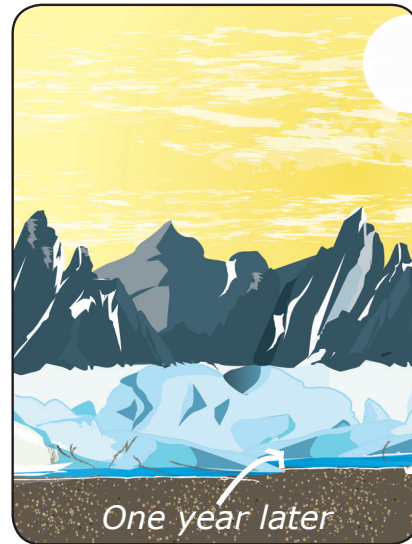
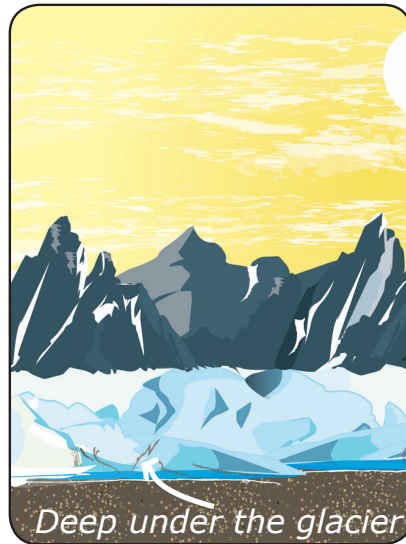
After all that excitement in my last blog, my parents texted me and said how lucky I was to be going on such a wonderful adventure. They reminded me of my Aunt Allie. She was at Muir Beach just as I was and ended up on a human's boot.



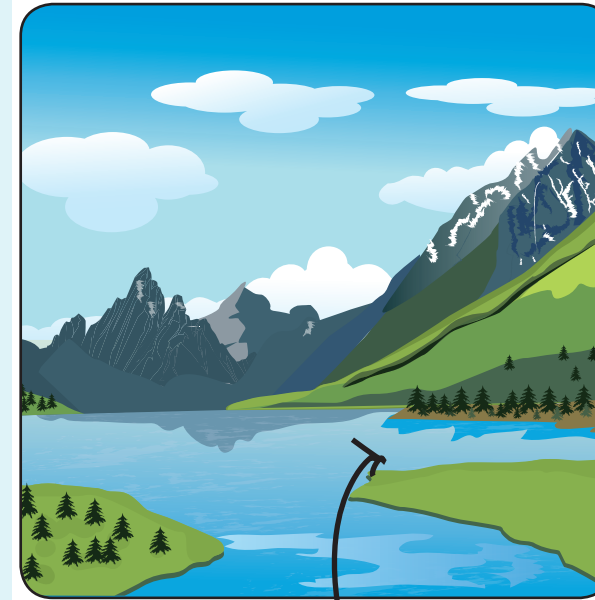
Uh oh!

Sandy's Blog

Aunt Allie traveled all the way to Alaska on that boot, and the poor sediment came loose while on the Matanuska Glacier. A small stream of water carried her deep into the glacial ice, and she's been stuck there ever since. She writes about her not-so-exciting adventures of moving only about 1 foot each year. Although she is moving slowly, she says that many of her new friends have weathered from the scraping of the ice and rocks as the glacier moves. Because the movement has been slow, Aunt Allie has been able to meet so many nice sediment and rock friends. However, her last message did sound like she was hoping for faster erosion.



Sandy's Blog



*Here I am.
Whew, it's
nice to get
some rest!*

I hate to say this, but I think this will be my last blog post. The river is flowing slowly and with less force than it was before. I've settled down and deposited where the river meets a beautiful lake. There is a group of sediments here that I am now friends with, and life is good, though more sediments are moving in every day. I hope it doesn't get too cramped; I would hate to be compacted into a sedimentary rock again.

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