

Great Science Adventures

How do glaciers affect the land?

Lithosphere Concepts:

- There are two kinds of glaciers: valley glaciers which form in high mountain valleys, and continental glaciers which form on ice caps in frigid polar regions.
- Layers upon layers of compacted snow form glaciers.
- Glaciers move downhill because of gravity, their weight, and melting ice underneath them.
- As glaciers move, they erode the land, often creating a U-shaped valley with steep sides and a flat floor.

Vocabulary: glacier valley polar regions iceberg *moraines *eskers *arête

Read: Lots of Science Library Book #18.

Activities:

Land Features created by a Glacier – Graphic Organizer

Focus Skills: explaining a process, labeling parts **Paper Handouts:** a copy of Graphic 18A

Landforms and Surface Features of Earth

- **Graphic Organizer:** Glue Graphic 18A under the previous page of *Landforms and Surface Features of Earth.*
 - Explain what you have learned about glaciers. Color the illustrations. Draw your own examples on the left page.
 - **Use the** *Lots of Science Library Book #18* to label the illustrations. Write clue words about glaciers: *compacted snow, moves downhill, erodes the land, creates U-shaped valley with steep sides and flat floor.*
- Complete **N**. Research the *Fascinating Physical Features of Earth* examples from the *Lots of Science Library Book #18* or other examples of glaciers. Write a descriptive or expository paragraph about them on the left page. Research and list geographic locations of several valley glaciers on the left page.

A Glacier – Investigative Loop – Lab 18-1

Focus Skills: demonstrating a concept, applying information



Lab Materials: dirtplastic container for the freezerwaterPaper Handouts:a copy of Lab Graphic 18-18.5" x 11" sheet of paper

Lab Record Cards Lab Book

- **Graphic Organizer:** Make a Pocket Book and glue it side-by-side to the Lab Book. Glue Lab Graphic 18-1 on the left pocket.
- Question: How does a glacier change land features?

Research: Read *Lots of Science Library Book # 18* and review the Question.

Procedure: Put 3" of water in the plastic container. Leave it in the freezer until it is completely



frozen. Create a slightly sloped hill of dirt about 5" deep, outside or in a large container. Place the frozen water on the top of the sloped hill, pushing it slightly into the dirt.

- **Observations:** Observe the dirt closely before the ice is placed on it. Observe the slope on a regular basis. If it takes too long to melt, pour some water on the ice.
- **Record the Data:** Label 2 Lab Record Cards "Lab 18-1." On one card, draw the sloped hill before the ice is placed on it. On the other card, draw the sloped hill after the ice has melted. Record any features of the dirt that you observed.
- **Conclusions:** Review the Lab Record Cards and determine how the ice changed the sloped hill. Draw conclusions about glaciers' effect on land, based on this lab.
- **Communicate the Conclusions:** On another Lab Record Card, explain your conclusions about this lab, or write a letter to someone explaining the lab and the conclusions.

Spark Questions: Discuss questions sparked by this lab.

New Loop: Choose one question to investigate further.

Design Your Own Experiment: Select a topic based upon this *Investigative Loop* experience. See page vii for more details.

Fascinating Facts about Earth – Graphic Organizer

Focus Skill: map reading

Paper Handouts: a copy of Graphics 18B-C Earth Shutter Fold Project

Graphic Organizer: Cut out Graphics 18B-C and fold on the middle line so that the illustration

is on the cover of each little book. Follow the directions below for the inside and glue it to the appropriate place on the world map inside the *Earth Shutter Fold Project*.

- ▶ Draw the cover pictures on the inside and color them.
- Copy information from the *Lots of Science Library Book* about the cover pictures.



(6)

 \mathbb{N} Write information about the cover pictures.

Experiences, Investigations, and Research

Select one or more of the following activities for individual or group enrichment projects. Allow your students to determine the format in which they would like to report, share, or graphically present what they have discovered. This should be a creative investigation that utilizes your students' strengths.

- 1. Investigate glacial deposits called moraines. Explain how Long Island was once a glacial moraine.
- 2. Draw and label a diagram of a glacier. Sketch land forms associated with glacial deposits: moraines, drumlins and eskers.
- 3. Explain why the majority of the world's lakes are in the northern hemisphere.
- 4. Investigate living organisms that have been preserved in ice. For example, the Ice Man and woolly mammoths.
- 5. Locate these famous glaciers on a map: French and Swiss Alps glaciers: Mer de Glace on Mont Blanc, Aletsch Glacier near the Jungfrau. Norway: Jostedal Glacier is the largest on the European continent. North America: Malaspina Glacier on Yakutat Bay, Alaska.









