**Explore** How can you observe a mineral wear away?

Model the wearing away of a mineral. The chalk represents the mineral. The wearing away is caused by rocks and water.

**Materials**
- plastic jar with lid
- chalk
- rocks
- timer or stopwatch (or clock with second hand)
- water

**What to Do**
1. Shake chalk and rocks in a jar for 1 minute. Look for changes in the chalk. Shake for 3 minutes more. **Observe** the chalk.

2. Empty the jar. Fill the jar ½ full with water. Repeat step 1 using the same rocks, 4 new pieces of chalk, and water.

**Process Skills**
You **infer** when you base ideas on observations. Carefully comparing and contrasting observations can help you make good inferences.

**Explain Your Results**
1. How did the chalk change after being shaken with rocks for 1 minute? for 3 more minutes? Compare and contrast your observations.
2. **Infer** Compared to shaking chalk with only rocks, what effect did shaking chalk with both rocks and water have on the chalk?