# Earth's Changing Surface Student Pre- or Posttest (Answer Key)

1. What do you know about different landforms on Earth? Use words and pictures to describe what you know.

### **Ideal response:**

There are many different landforms on Earth, including mountains, valleys, hills, plains, deserts,

plateaus, rivers, and lakes. [A similar list of landforms is acceptable.]

2. Describe what you think caused the place in this picture to look the way it does.



Photo courtesy of USGS.gov

### **Ideal response:**

I think the river in the picture carried dirt [soil] and rocks downstream, slowly carving a

canyon into the land over a long period of time.

- 3. In what ways do you think water changes the surface of Earth? (Think about rainfall, streams, and rivers as examples.)
  - a. Draw a picture.

[Students' pictures should show water (rain, rivers, and/or streams) washing away soil and rock and carrying them from one place to another. Drawings might also include a canyon or delta.]

b. Explain your drawing.

## **Ideal response:**

I drew a river because I think rivers can make landforms, like canyons, by moving dirt

and rocks from one place to another. I think rain can wash away the land too, especially

during a flood. The dirt and rock that rivers carry away end up at the ocean and make a

delta.

4. Will the landforms in this picture always look this way? Explain your ideas.



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#### **Ideal response:**

I think these landforms will look different in the future because landforms don't stay the same. They change over time. Sometimes the changes happen fast, like during a flood, and sometimes they happen very slowly, like when a river carves out a canyon. Over time, water moves rocks and soil from one place to another, and that changes how landforms look.

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