

Names: _____

Fast or Slow?

Some Earth events happen quickly. Others happen slowly. Cut out the cards on the next page. Decide whether each event happens fast or slow. Use evidence from books, personal experience, and other sources to decide. Place events on the chart.

Fast: it takes less than 100 years

Slow: it takes more than 100 years

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Earth Events

A river wears down a huge boulder, breaks it apart, grinds it to sand, and carries that sand to the ocean.

A piece of rock on the ocean floor gets buried miles belowground as sand, shells, and bones pile on top of it.

A meteorite (a chunk of rock from space) strikes Earth, leaving a giant crater in the ground.

Extreme heat from a forest fire causes a rock to crack in half.

A mountain gets worn down by moving water and ice, until it is only a small hill.

A volcano erupts, filling a valley with lava.

In the desert, drenching rains cause a flood that knocks down trees and destroys homes.

Lightning strikes a rock, melting its surface.

Harsh winds filled with sand sculpt a large cliff into a skinny tower of rock.

A big chunk of rock breaks off a cliff and tumbles onto the road below.