

**Lithification**  
(Compaction and Cementation)

**Sedimentary rocks**

**Metamorphic rocks**

**Igneous rocks (extrusive)**

**Igneous rocks (intrusion)**

**Magma**

# Sediments and Sedimentary Rocks

The term **sediment** refers to (1) all solid particles of preexisting rocks yielded by mechanical and chemical weathering, (2) minerals derived from solutions containing materials dissolved during chemical weathering and (3) minerals extracted from sea water by organisms to build their shell. **Sedimentary rock** is simply any rock composed of sediments.



Sedimentary rocks cover about two thirds of the continents and most of the seafloor. All rocks are important to understand the Earth history, but sedimentary rocks play a special role because **they preserve evidence of surface processes responsible for them.** By studying sedimentary rocks we can determine past distribution of streams, lakes, deserts, glaciers, and shorelines. They also make inferences about ancient climates and biosphere. In addition, some sediments and sedimentary rocks are themselves natural resources, or they are the host for resources such as petroleum and natural gas.

## **Depositional Processes (Çökelme Süreçleri)**

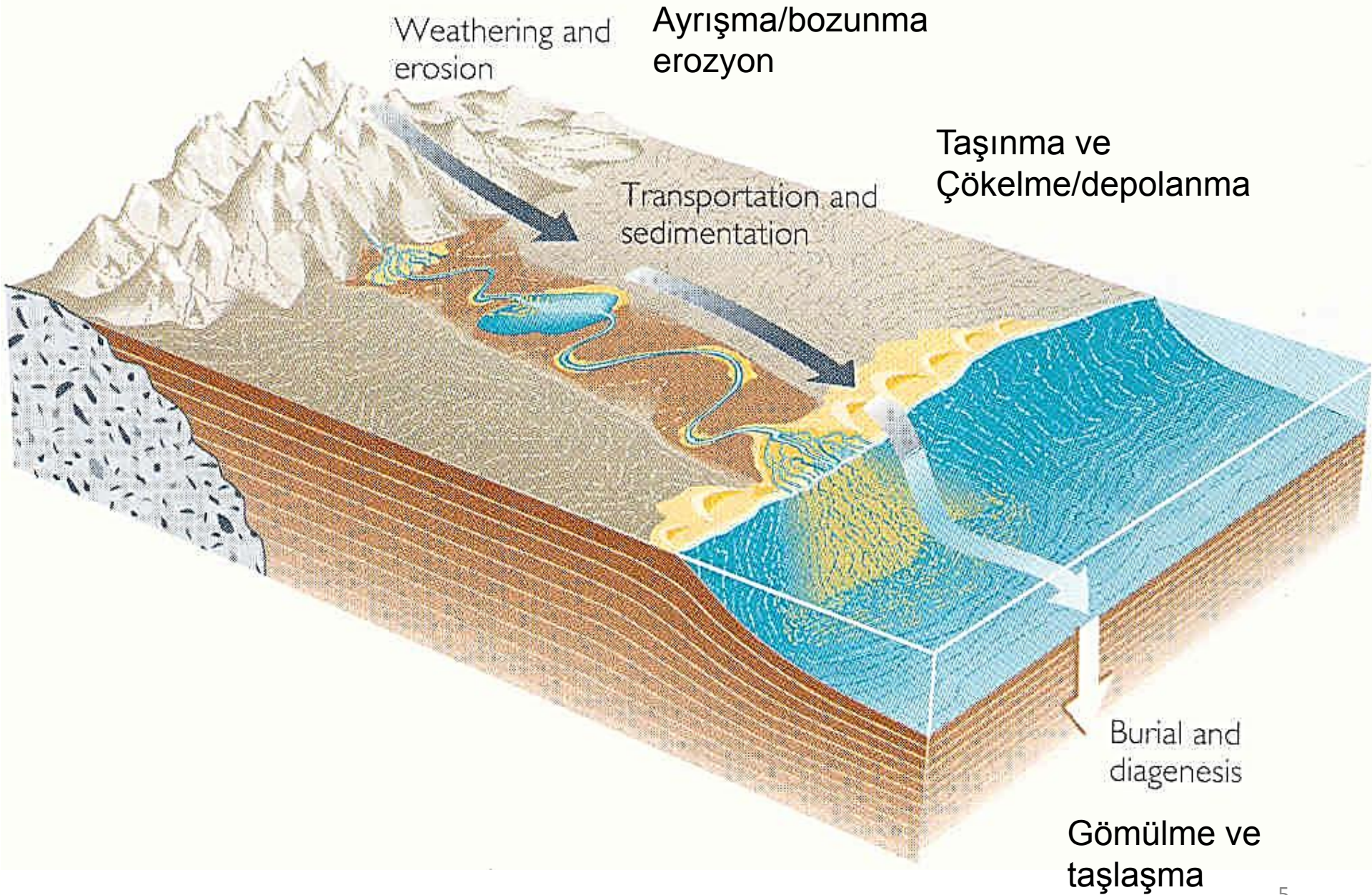
**Weathering & Erosion, Transportation, Deposition**

**/ Sedimentation and Diagenesis.**

### **Weathering & Erosion**

Weathering and erosion are the fundamental processes in the origin of sediment.

During this process, two types of sediments are produced: **detrital sediments** and **chemical sediments**.



Weathering and erosion

Ayrışma/bozunma erozyon

Transportation and sedimentation

Taşınma ve Çökelme/depolanma

Burial and diagenesis

Gömülme ve taşlaşma

**Detrital Sediments** are all particles derived from any type of weathering.

All detrital sediment is transported some distance from its source, whereas chemical sediments form in the area where it is deposited. Important **transporting agents are streams, wind, glaciers and waves.**

### Size Classification of Sediment Particles

Size	Name of Particle		
>2 mm	Gravel	Çakıl	
1/16–2 mm	Sand	Kum	
1/256–1/16 mm	Silt	Silt	Çamur* Mud
<1/256 mm	Clay	Kil	

During the transport of detrital sediments, **abrasion** reduces the size of the particles and the sharp corners and edges are worn smooth, a process called, **rounding**, as pieces of gravels and sand collide with one another.

**Sorting** refers to the size distribution of the particles in sediment or sedimentary rocks. Sediment is **well sorted** if all the particles are about the same size, and **poorly sorted** if the range of size is wide.

**Chemical Sediments.** is made up of solid particles derived by inorganic chemical processes, such as evaporation of sea water, as well as the activities of organisms.

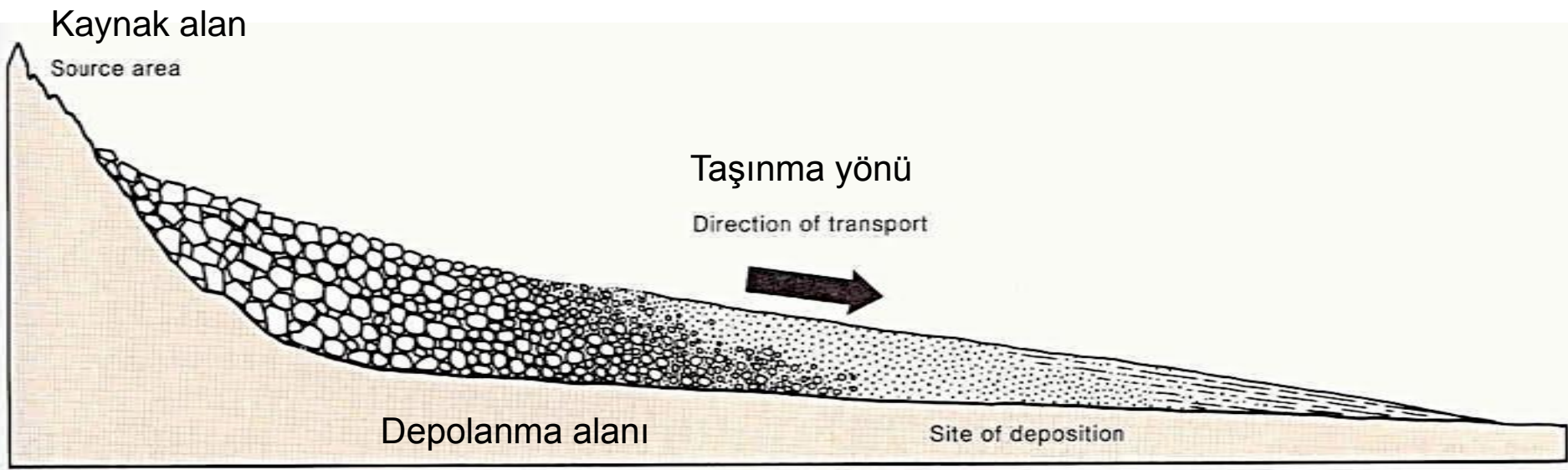
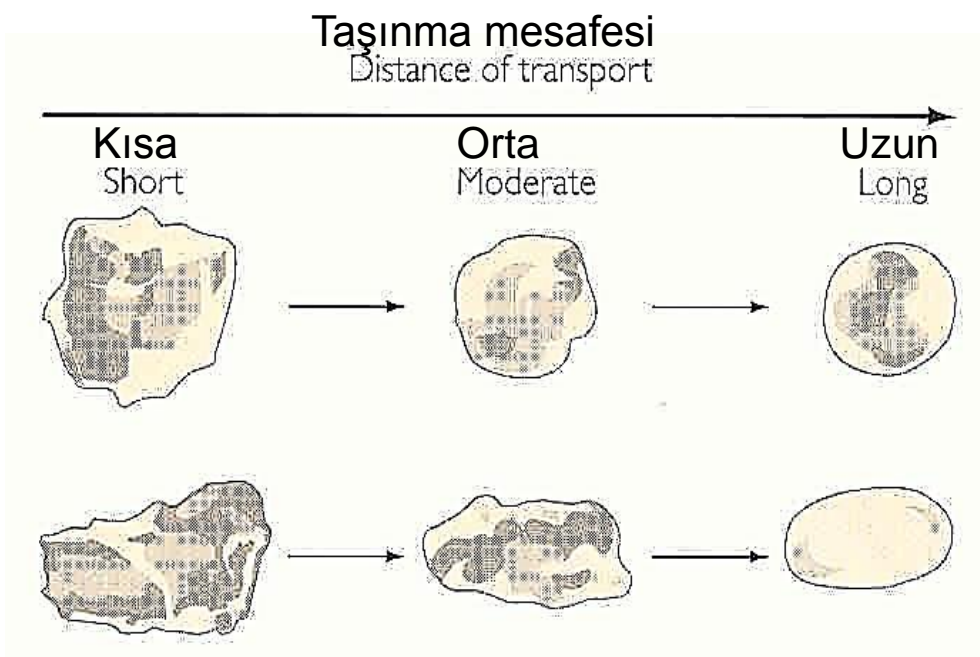


Diagram illustrating how size of sediments decrease as distance of transport increase.



Relation between distance of transport and roundness.

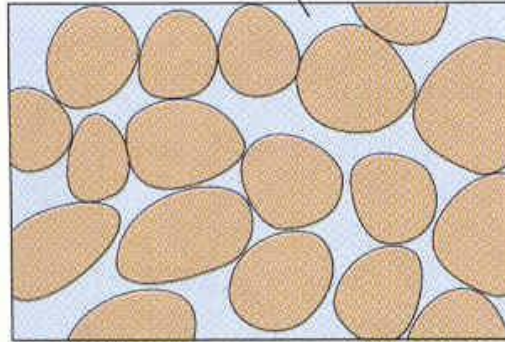


# Rounding and sorting in sediments.

Well rounded

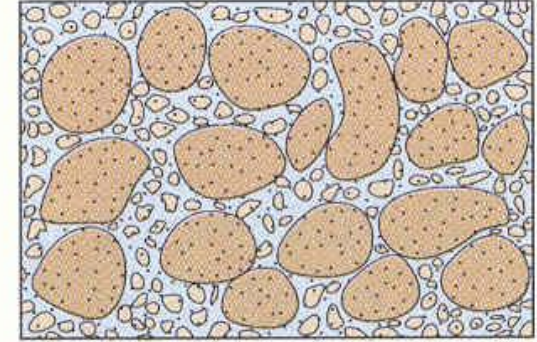


Well sorted & rounded



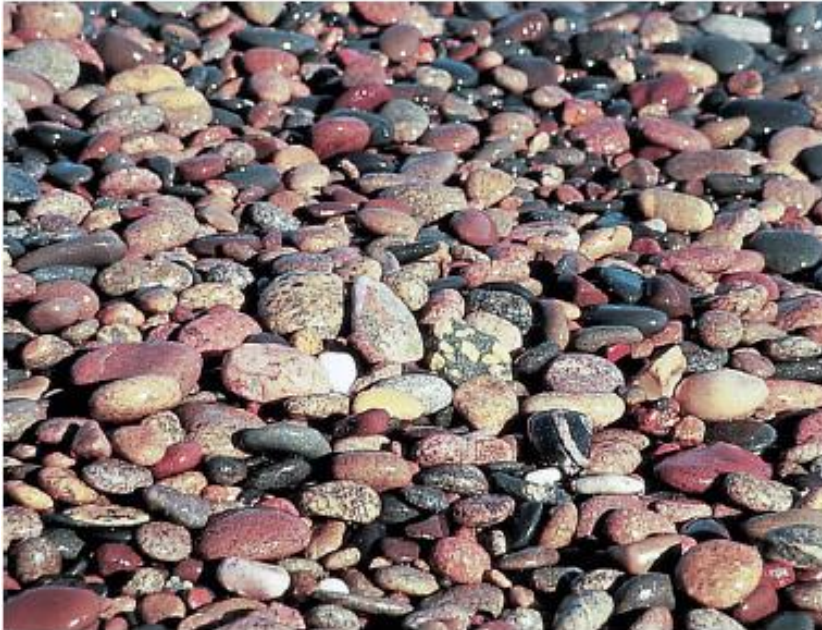
(a)

Poorly sorted



(b)

Well sorted & rounded gravel



Angular & Poorly sorted gravel



James S. Monroe

## **Deposition and Depositional Environments**

**(Depolanma / çökeltme / birikme ve Depolanma ortamları)**

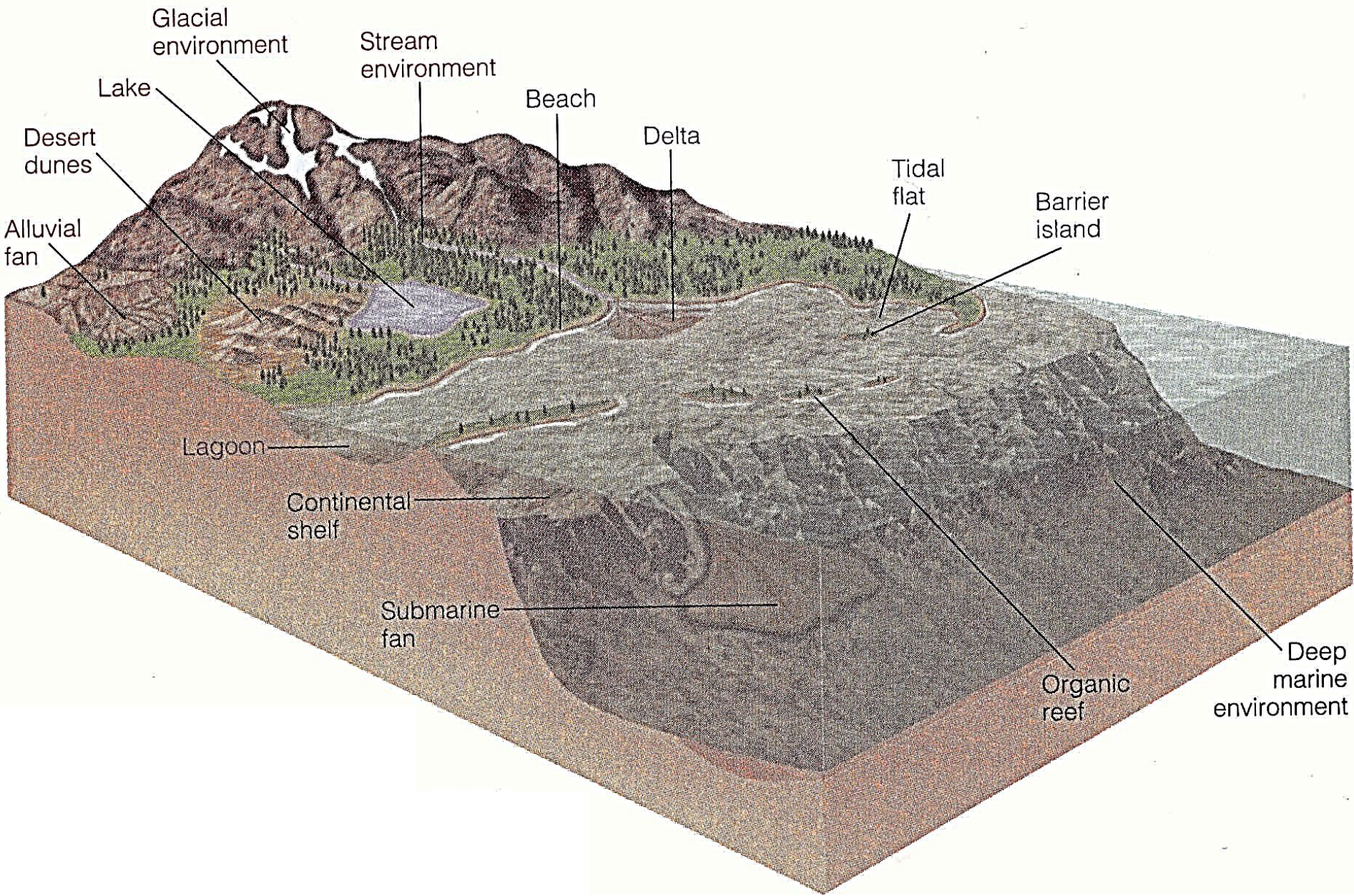
The transport distance for sediments is variable, but regardless of transport mechanism or distance, all sediment is eventually deposited; that is, it accumulates in a specific area.

Any geographic area in which sediment accumulates is a depositional environment, where physical, chemical, and biological processes impart distinctive characteristics to sedimentary deposits.

**i. Continental environment (Karasal ortamlar).** Stream / fluvial env., Lake / lacustrine env., floodplain env., Glacial env., Desert env.

**ii. Transitional environments (Geçiş ortamı).** Deltas, beaches, tidal flats, barrier island.

**iii. Marine environments (Denizel ortam).** Continental shelf (Kıta sahanlığı), Continental slope (Kıta yamacı), Deep marine (Derin deniz)

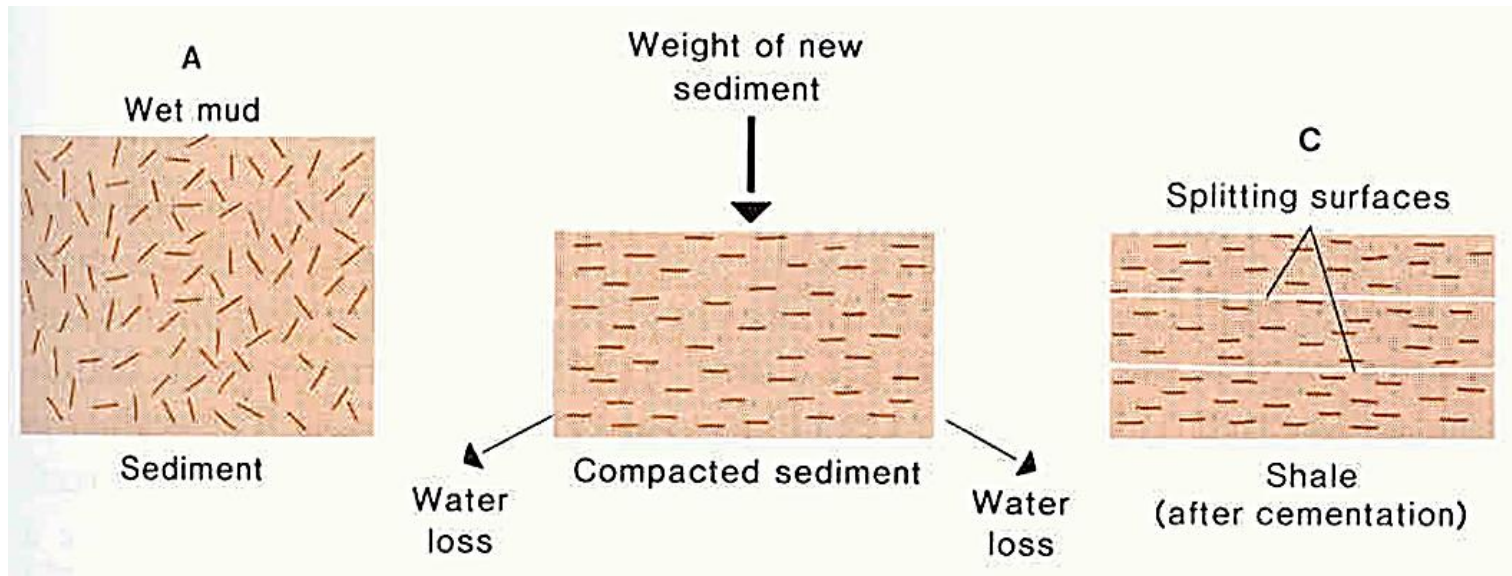


# HOW DOES SEDIMENT BECOME SEDIMENTARY ROCK?

When detrital sediment is deposited, it consists of a loose aggregate of particles. Mud accumulating in lakes, and sand and gravel in stream channels or on beaches are good examples. To convert these aggregates of particles into sedimentary rocks requires ***lithification*** by ***compaction***, ***cementation***, or ***both***, and ***recrystallization***.

## Compaction (Çökellerin/Sedimanların sıkılaşması )

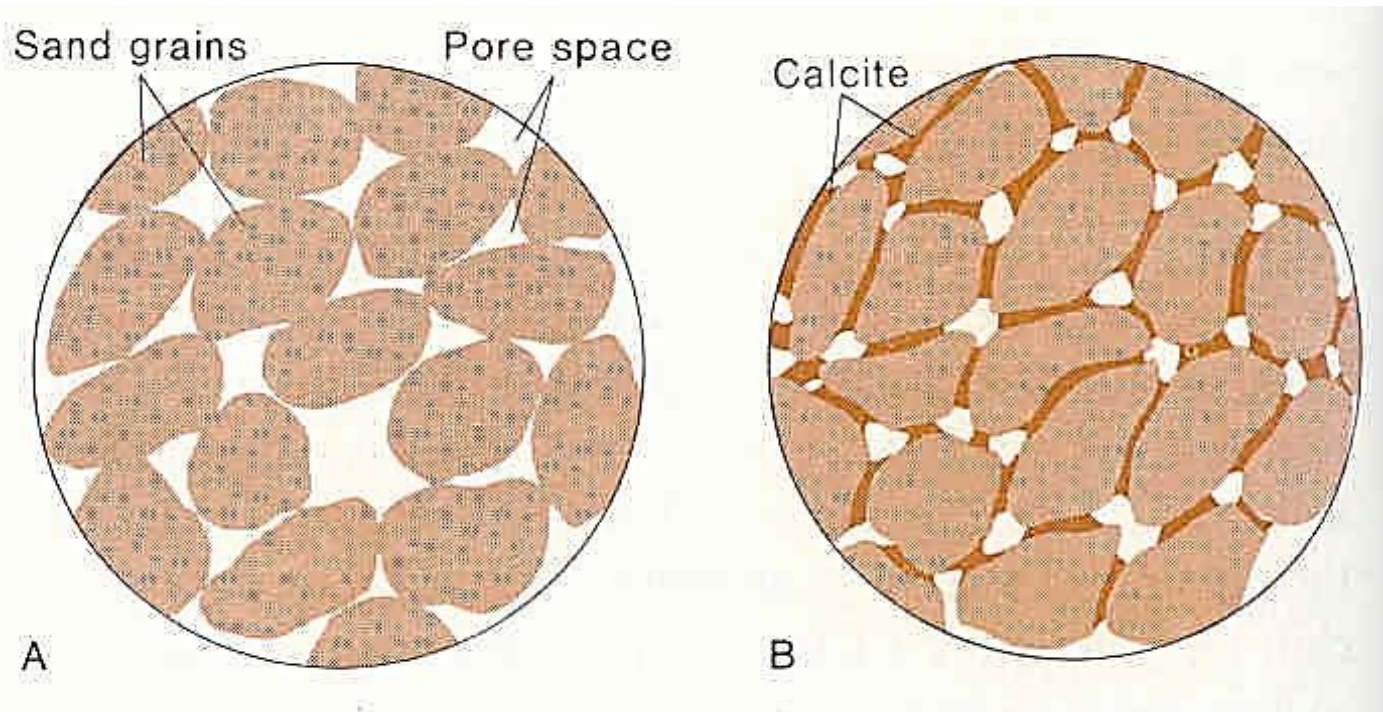
The sediment consists of solid particles and **pore spaces**, the voids between them. These deposits are subjected to compaction from their own weight and weight of any additional sediment deposited on top of them, thereby reducing the amount of pore space and the volume of deposit. So that, the grains fit more tightly together.



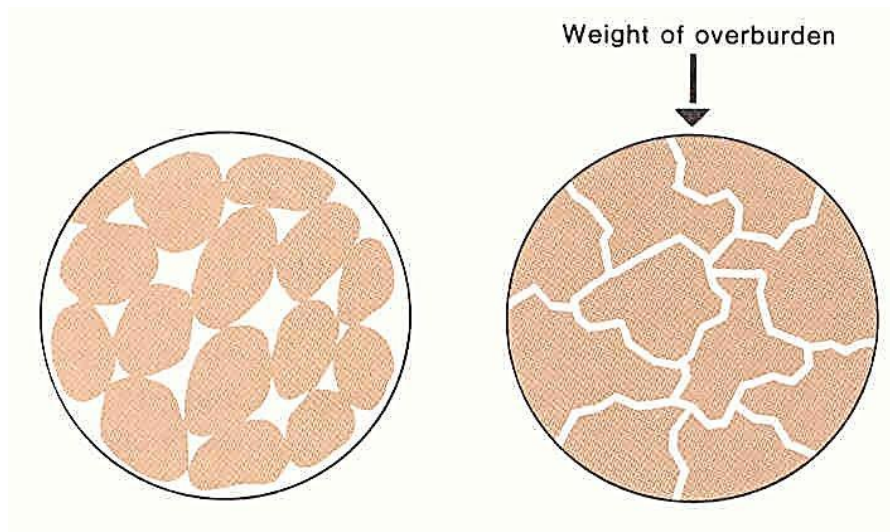
## **Cementation** (Çökellerin/Sedimanların çimentolanması)

Compaction alone is sufficient for lithification of mud, but for sand and gravel, **cementation**, involving *precipitation of minerals in pore spaces* is also necessary.

The cement in the form of calcium carbonate ( $\text{CaCO}_3$ ), silicon dioxide ( $\text{SiO}_2$ ), and iron oxides and hydroxides, such as hematite ( $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ ) and limonite ( $\text{FeO}(\text{OH}) \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ), are the most common chemical cements.



## Recrystallisation (Yeniden kristallenme)



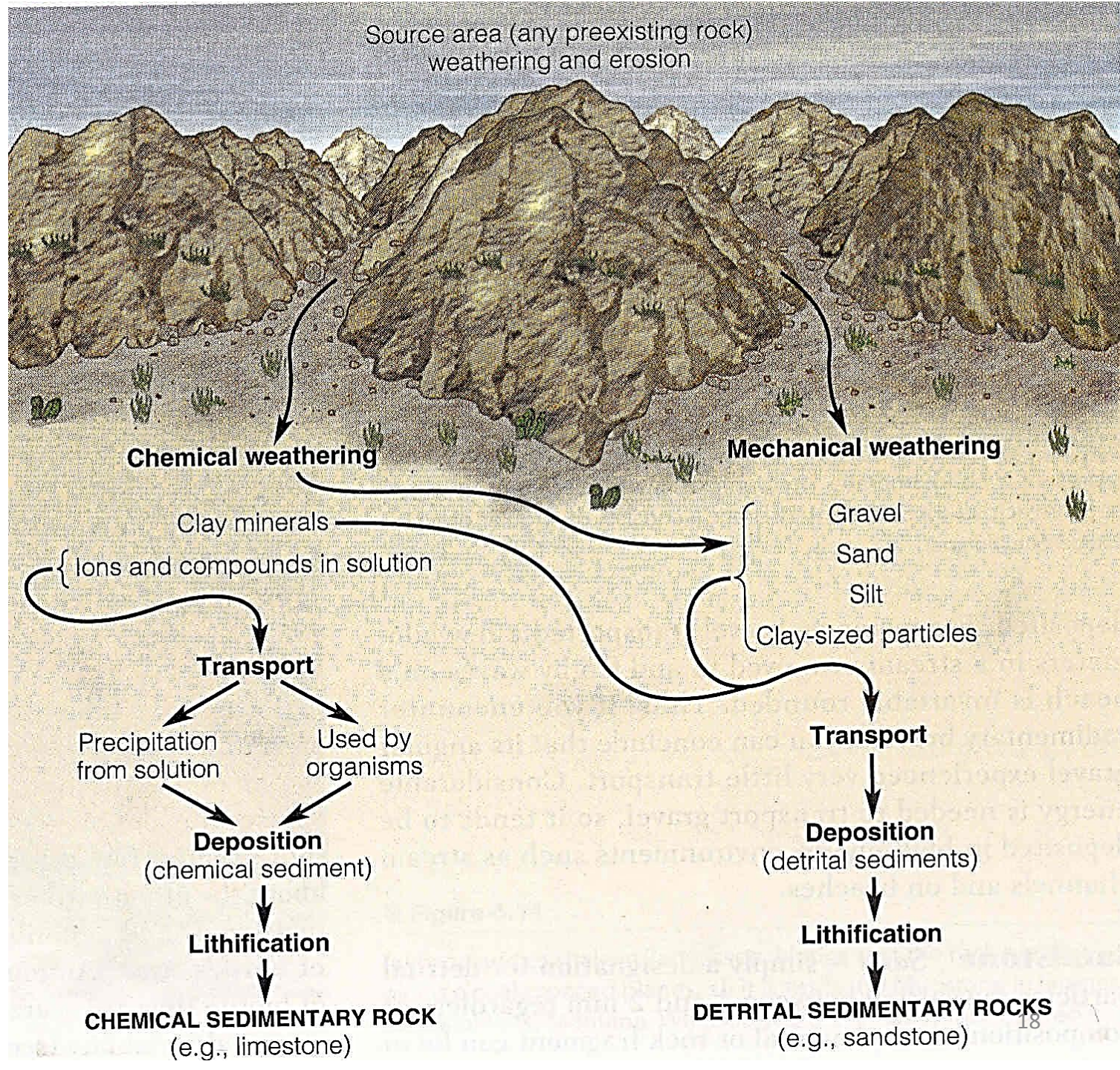


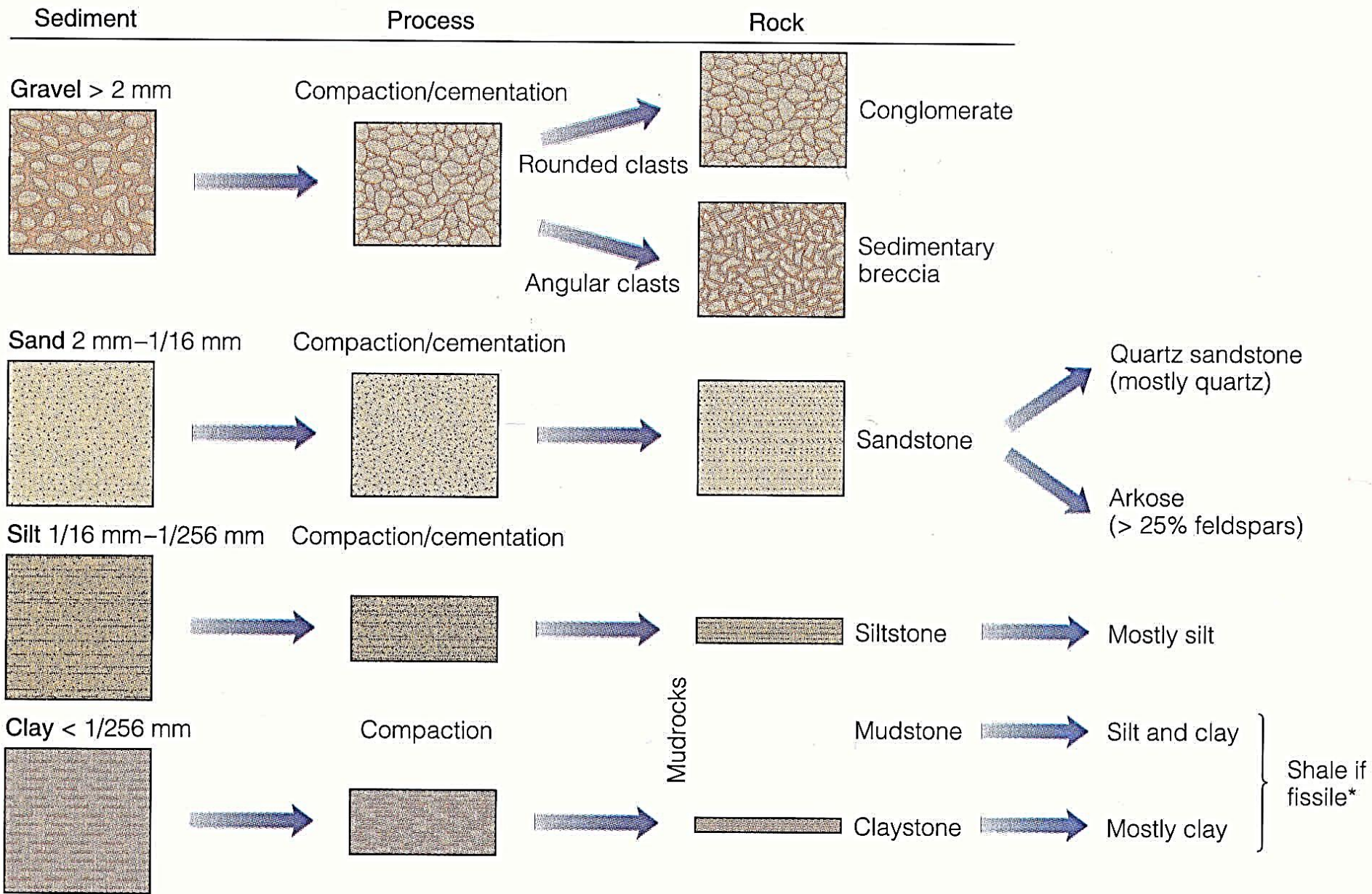
## TYPES OF SEDIMENTARY ROCKS

There are two types of sedimentary rocks: ***Detrital sedimentary rocks*** and ***chemical sedimentary rocks***.

**Detrital sedimentary rocks** are made up of ***detritus***, the solid particles such as gravel, sand and mud derived from preexisting rocks by mechanical and chemical weathering. They have a ***clastic texture***, meaning they are composed of fragments known as ***clasts***. Detrital sedimentary rocks are classified primarily by the size of their constituent particles.

The derivation of sediment from pre-existing rocks. Whether derived by chemical or mechanical weathering, solid particles and materials in solution are transported and deposited as sediment, which if lithified becomes detrital or chemical sedimentary rock.





# Classification of Chemical and Biochemical Sedimentary Rocks

## CHEMICAL SEDIMENTARY ROCKS

Texture	Composition	Rock Name	
Varies	Calcite ( $\text{CaCO}_3$ )	Limestone	} Carbonate rocks
Varies	Dolomite [ $\text{CaMg}(\text{CO}_3)_2$ ]	Dolostone	
Crystalline	Gypsum ( $\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ )	Rock gypsum	} Evaporites
Crystalline	Halite ( $\text{NaCl}$ )	Rock salt	

## BIOCHEMICAL SEDIMENTARY ROCKS

Clastic	Calcite ( $\text{CaCO}_3$ ) shells	Limestone (various types such as chalk and coquina)
Usually crystalline	Altered microscopic shells of $\text{SiO}_2$	Chert (various color varieties)
—	Carbon from altered land plants	Coal (lignite, bituminous, anthracite)

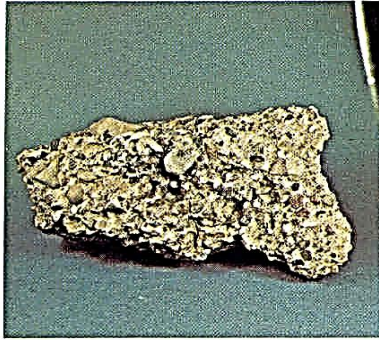


Figure 78. Conglomerate

Photomicrograph (X5)



Quartz pebble Sand matrix

Hand specimen

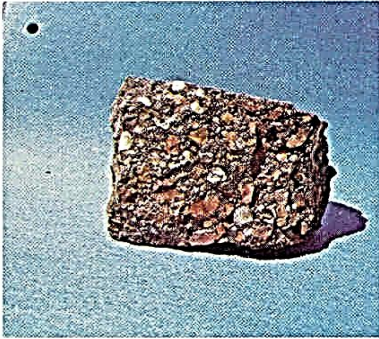
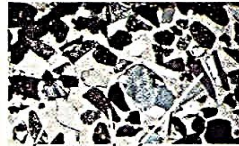


Figure 79. Breccia

Photomicrograph (X5)



Calcite matrix Angular rock fragments

Hand specimen

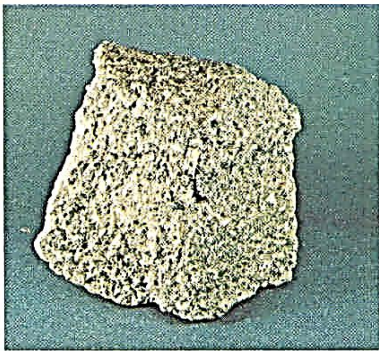


Figure 80. Arkose

Photomicrograph (X5)



Feldspar Quartz

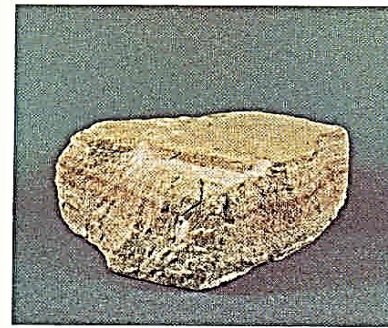
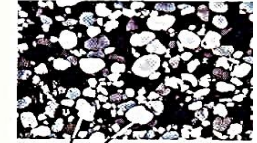


Figure 81. Quartz Sandstone

Photomicrograph (X5)



Rounded quartz grains

Hand specimen

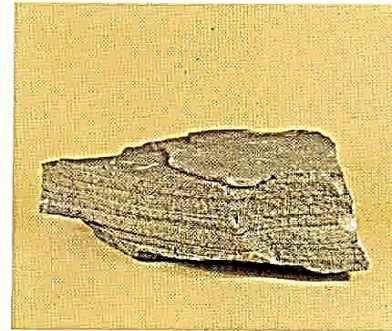
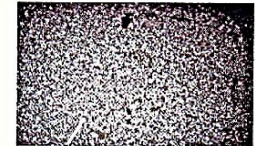


Figure 82. Siltstone

Photomicrograph (X5)



Quartz grains

Hand specimen

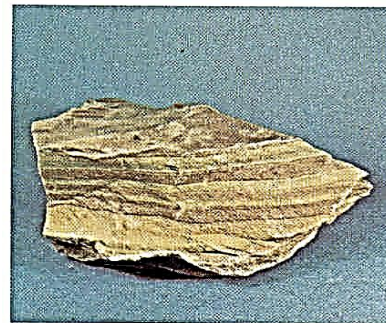


Figure 83. Shale

Photomicrograph (X5)



Laminae Clay minerals

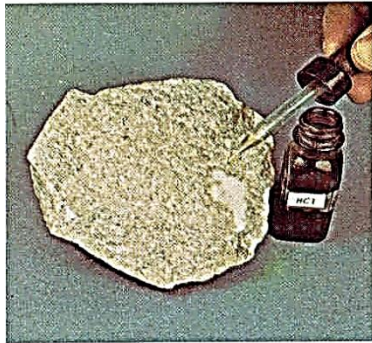
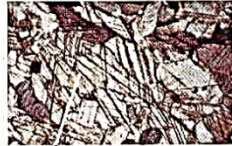


Figure 84. Crystalline Limestone

Hand specimen

Photomicrograph (X5)



Calcite

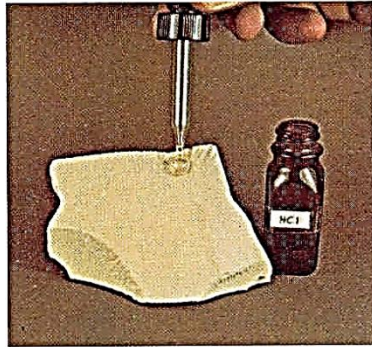


Figure 85. Microcrystalline Limestone

Hand specimen

Photomicrograph (X5)



Microcrystalline calcite



Figure 86. Oolitic Limestone

Hand specimen

Photomicrograph (X5)



Oolites

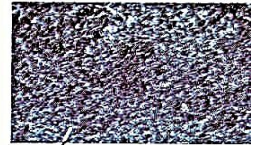
Calcite matrix



Figure 93. Chert

Hand specimen

Photomicrograph (X5)



Cryptocrystalline quartz

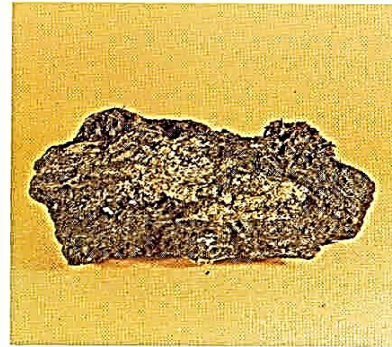


Figure 94. Peat

Hand specimen

Photomicrograph (X5)



Organic matter

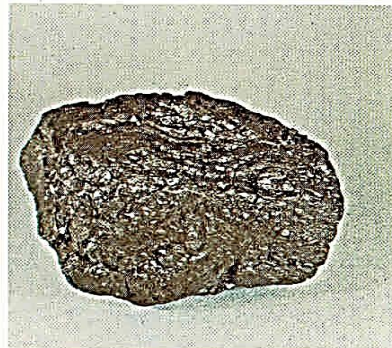
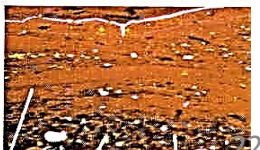


Figure 95. Coal

Hand specimen

Photomicrograph (X5)



Vitrain (red)

Spores and resins (yellow)

Fusain (black)

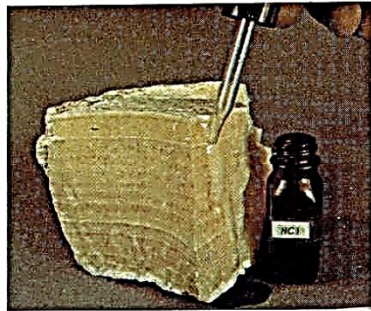
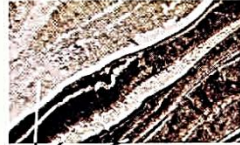


Figure 90. Travertine

Hand specimen

Photomicrograph (X5)



Calcite

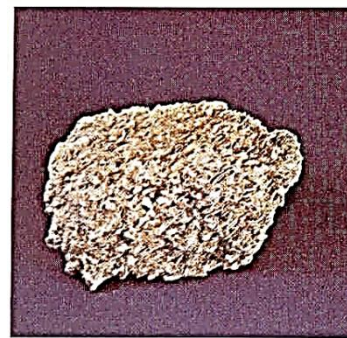


Figure 87. Coquina

Hand specimen

Photomicrograph (X5)



Shell fragments



Figure 91. Gypsum

Hand specimen

Photomicrograph (X5)



Small gypsum crystals

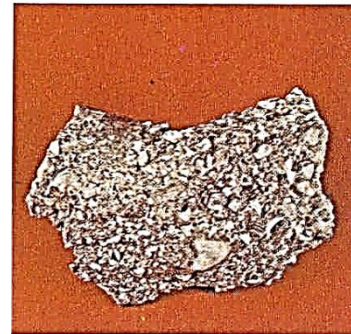


Figure 88. Fossiliferous Limestone

Hand specimen

Photomicrograph (X5)



Shell fragments

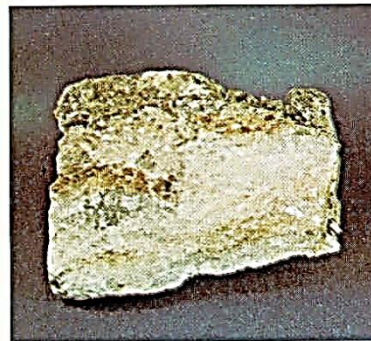


Figure 92. Rock Salt

Hand specimen

Photomicrograph (X5)



Halite crystals

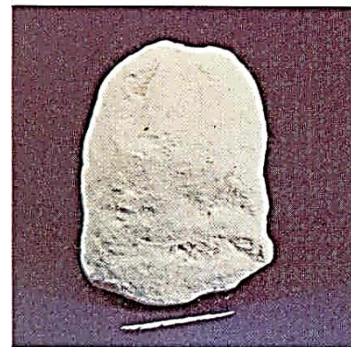
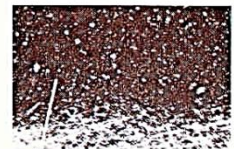


Figure 89. Chalk

Hand specimen

Photomicrograph (X5)



Clay and microscopic shells

**Coal**, a biochemical sedimentary rock, consist of compressed, altered remains of land plants. It forms in swamps and bogs where the water is oxygen deficient or where organic matter accumulates faster than it decomposes.

Partly altered plant remains form organic muck, which, when buried and compressed, becomes **peat** (*turba*). It contains 50% carbon.

If the peat is more deeply buried and compressed, and especially if it is heated too, it is converted to black or brown coal called **lignite** (*linyit*). It contains 70% carbon.

**Bituminous coal**, which contains about 80% carbon, is dense and black. It is higher grade coal than lignite because it burns more efficiently.

The highest-grade coal is **anthracite**, a metamorphic type of coal with up to 98% carbon.





(a) Turba



(c) Bitümlü kömür



(b) Linyit

(a) Peat (turba) is partly decomposed plant material. It represents the first stage in the origin of coal.

(b) Lignite (linyit) is a dull variety of coal in which plant remains are still visible.

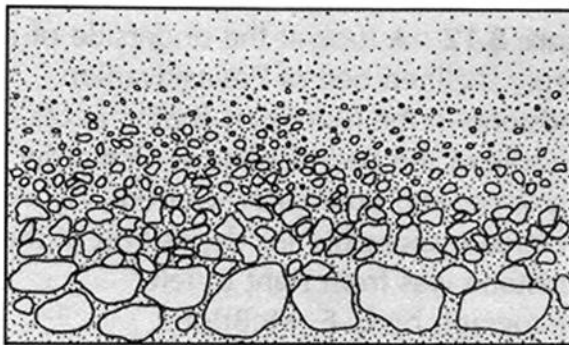
(c) Bituminous coal (bitümlü kömür) is shinier and darker than lignite and only rarely are plant remains visible.

# SEDIMENTARY STRUCTURES

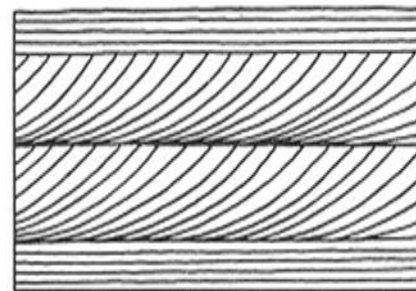
When sediment is deposited, it has variety of features known as **sedimentary structures** *that formed as a result of physical and biological processes operating in the depositional environment.*

One of the most common of these sedimentary structures is **strata**, or **bed**. Sedimentary rock layers are separated from one another by surfaces known as **bedding planes**, above and below which the rocks differ markedly in composition, grain size, color, or a combination of features.

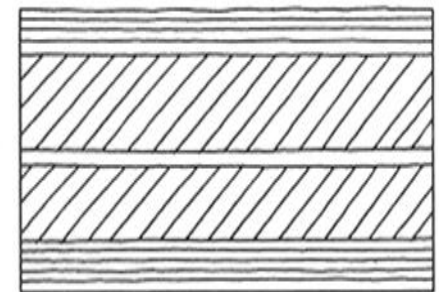
Two types of sedimentary structures present in a bed: **cross-bedding** and **graded bedding**.



graded bedding

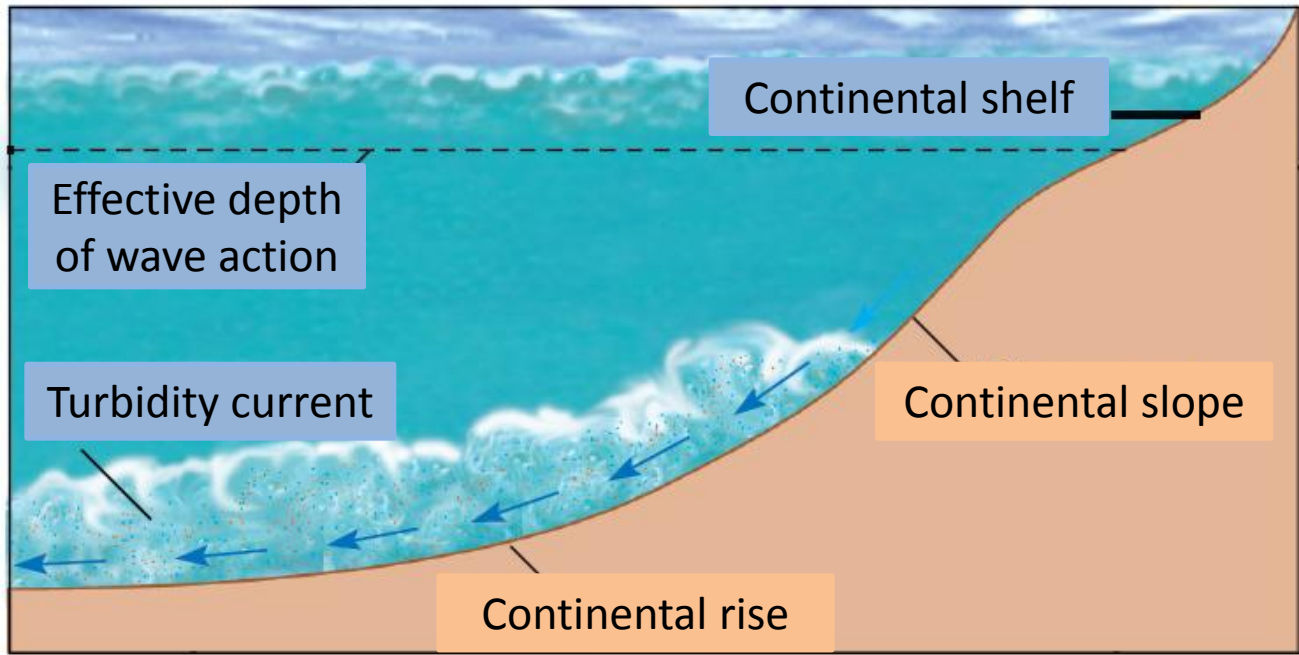


A

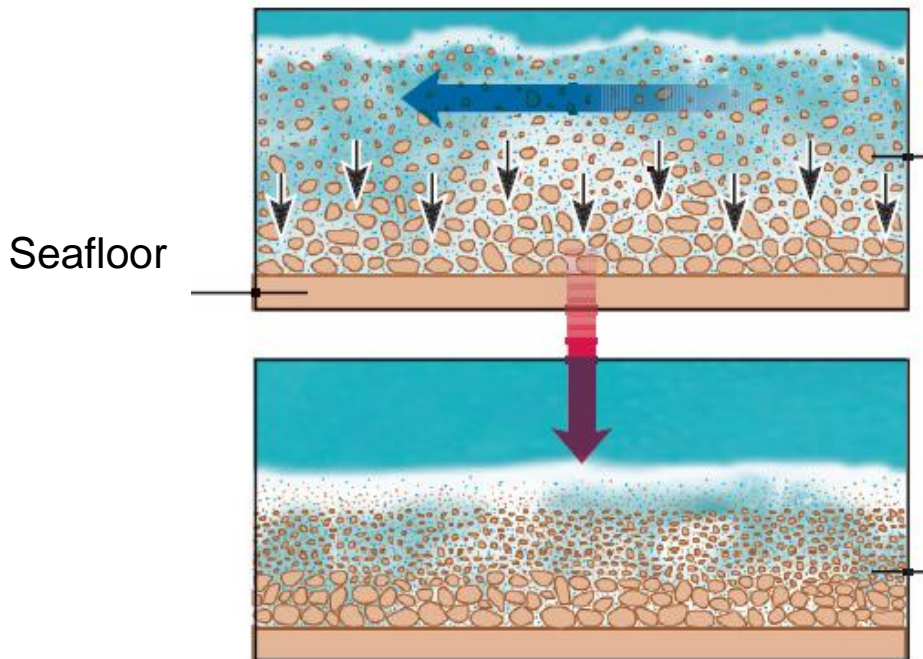


B

cross bedding

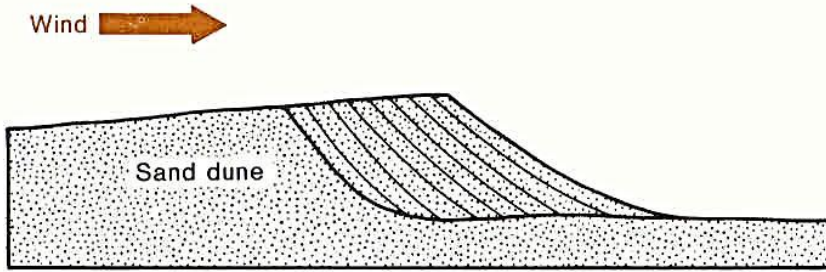


Turbidity current flow downslope along the seafloor because they are denser than sediment-free water.

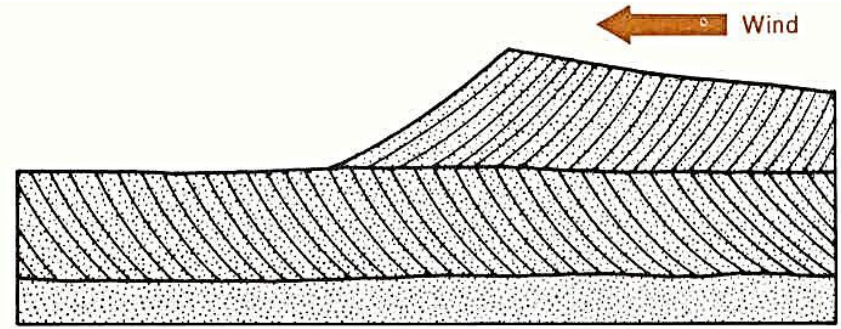


As turbidity current slows, largest particles settle followed by smaller particles

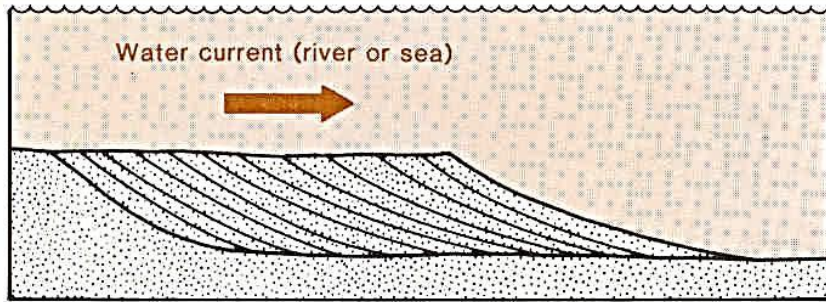
A graded bed



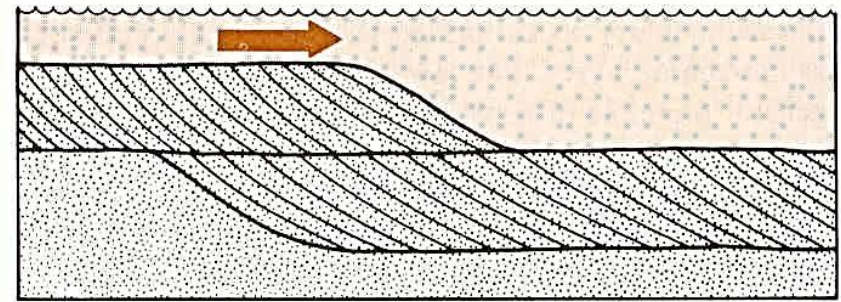
A



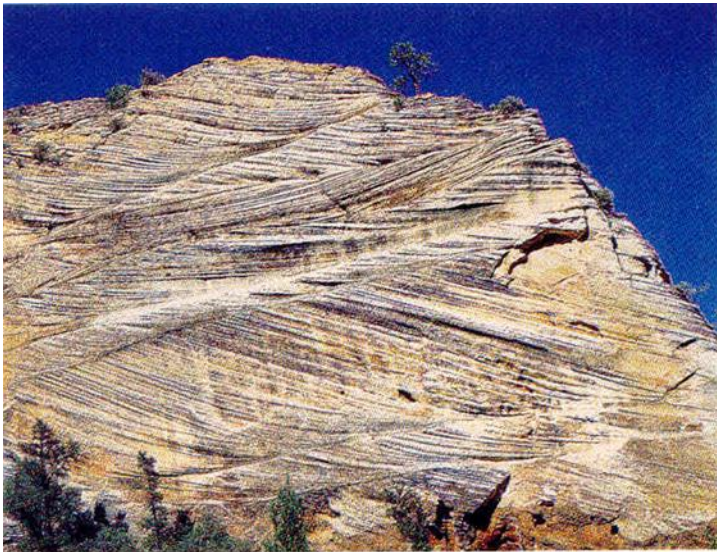
B



C



D

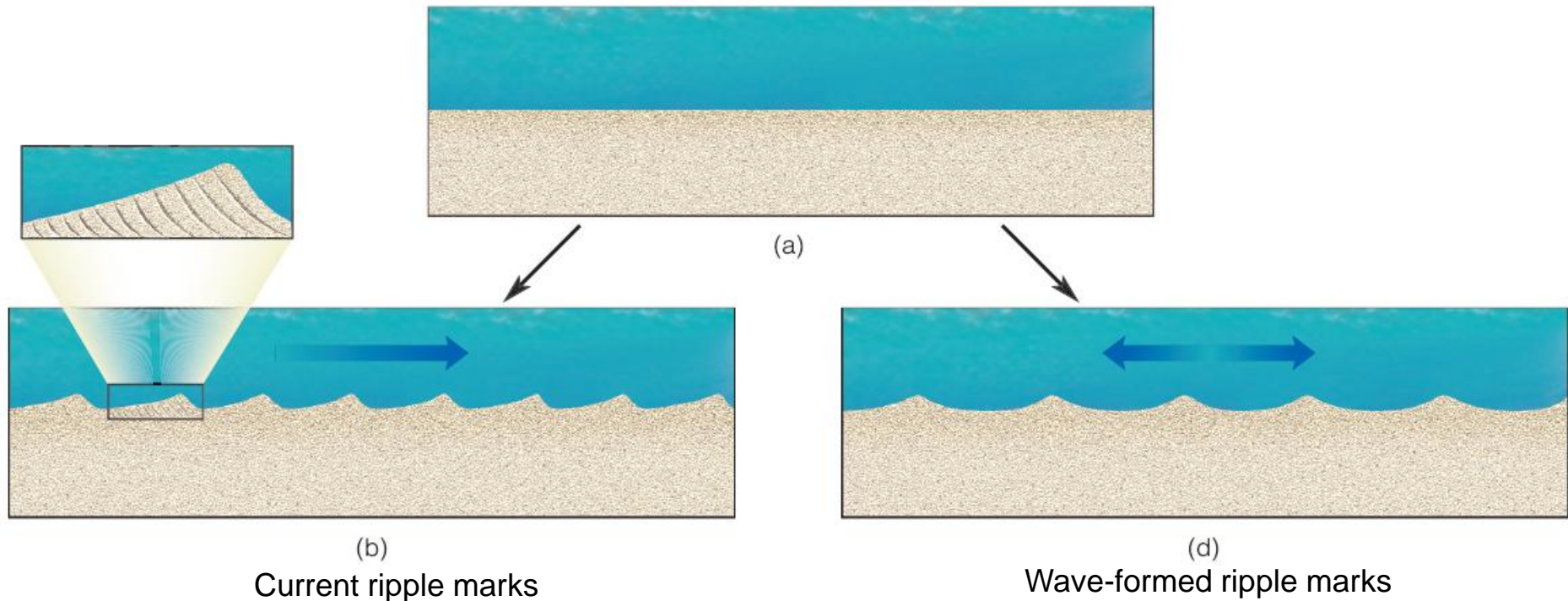


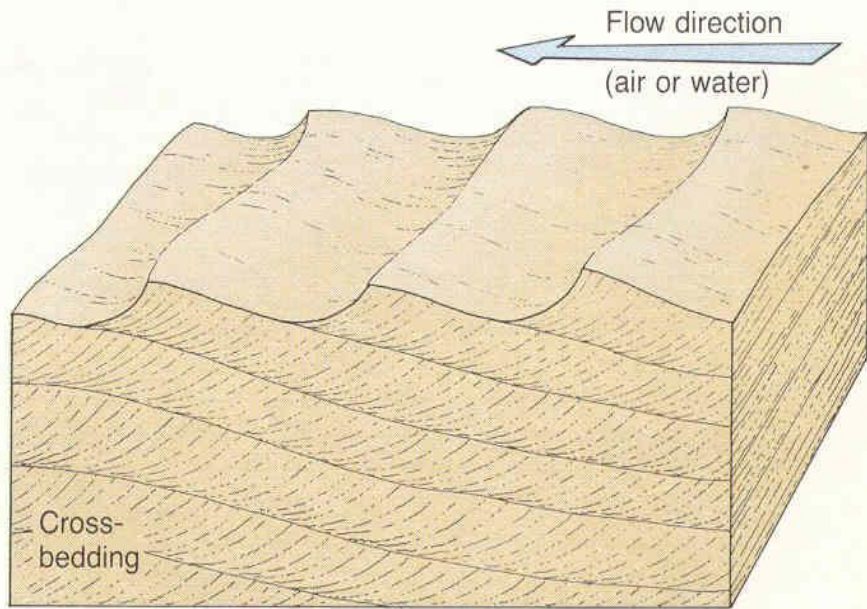
## Ripple Marks

They are small-scale ridge like features seen on the surface of bed, and formed by wave or current.

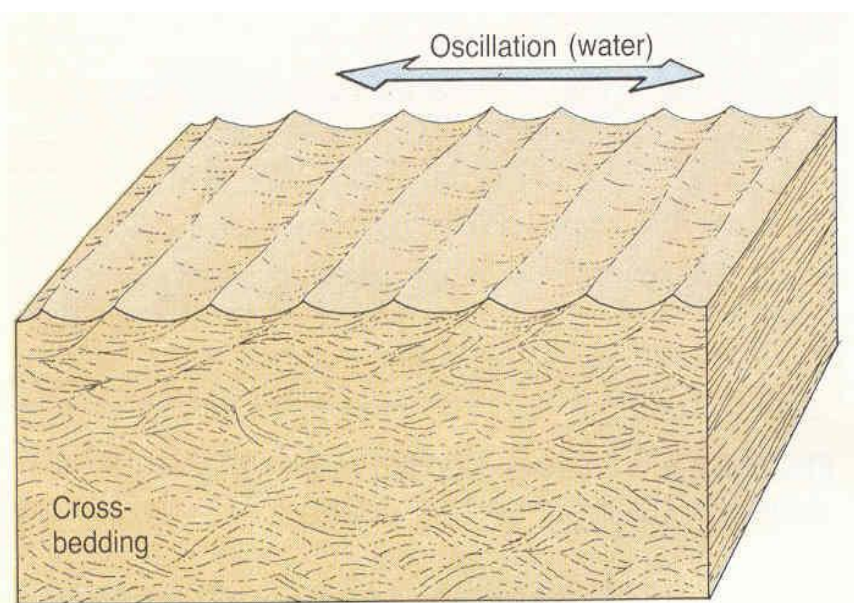
**Current ripple marks.** Asymmetric in cross section, with a gentle upstream slope and a steep downstream slope. They form as a result of currents that move in one direction as in stream channel.

**Wave-formed ripple marks,** The to-and-fro motion of waves produces ripples that tend to be symmetric in cross-section. They form mostly in the shallow, nearshore waters of oceans and lakes.



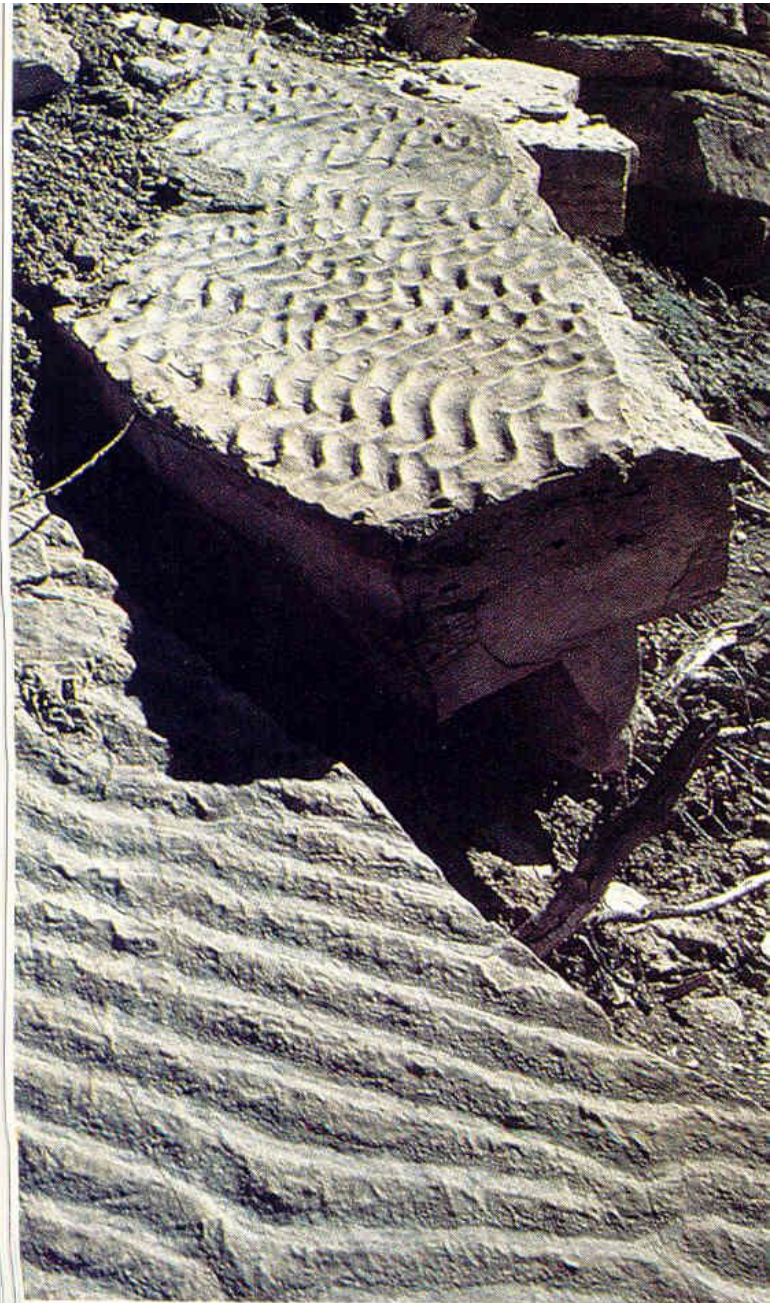


Current ripple marks



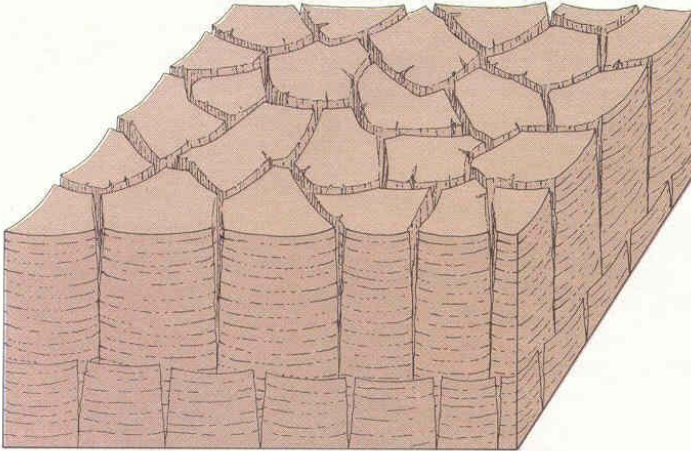
Wave-formed ripple marks



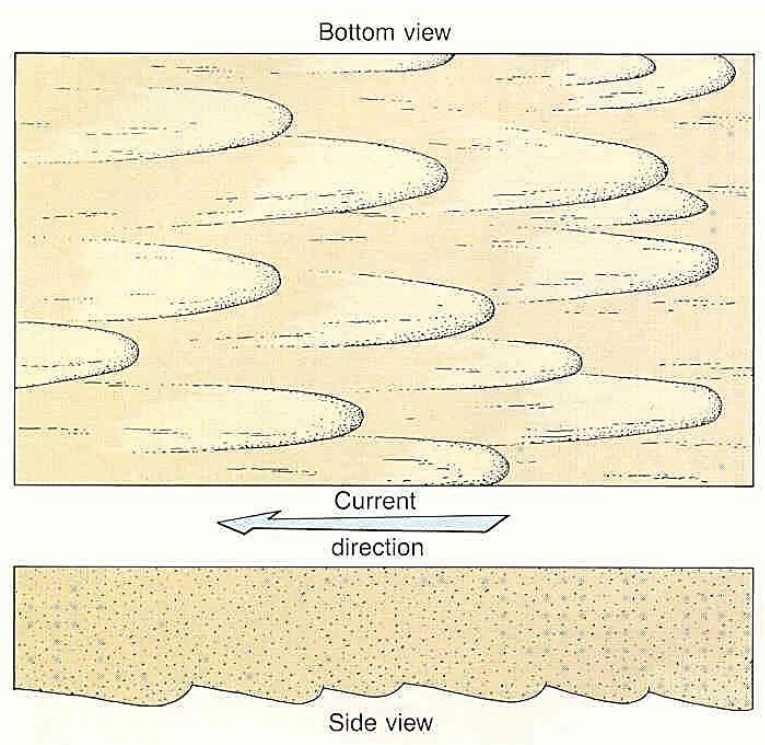


## Mud cracks

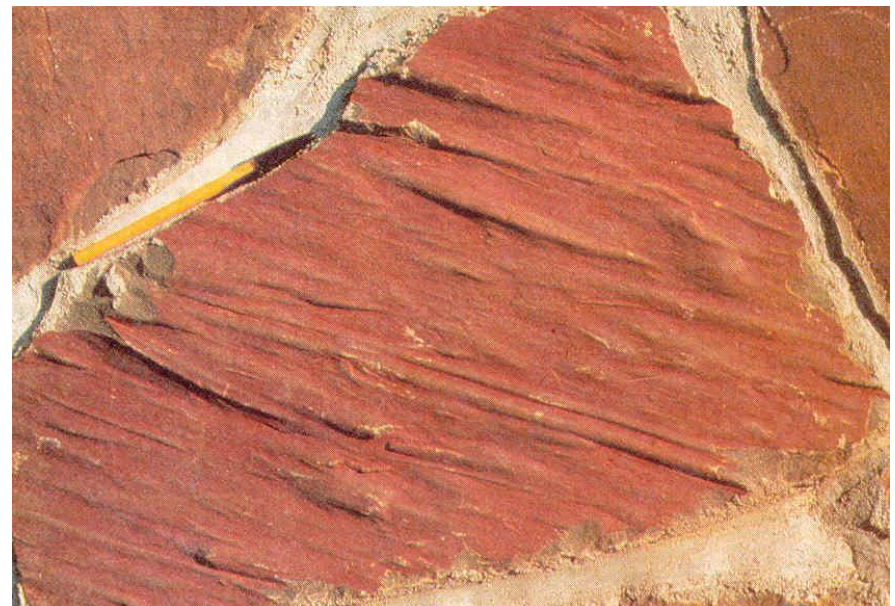
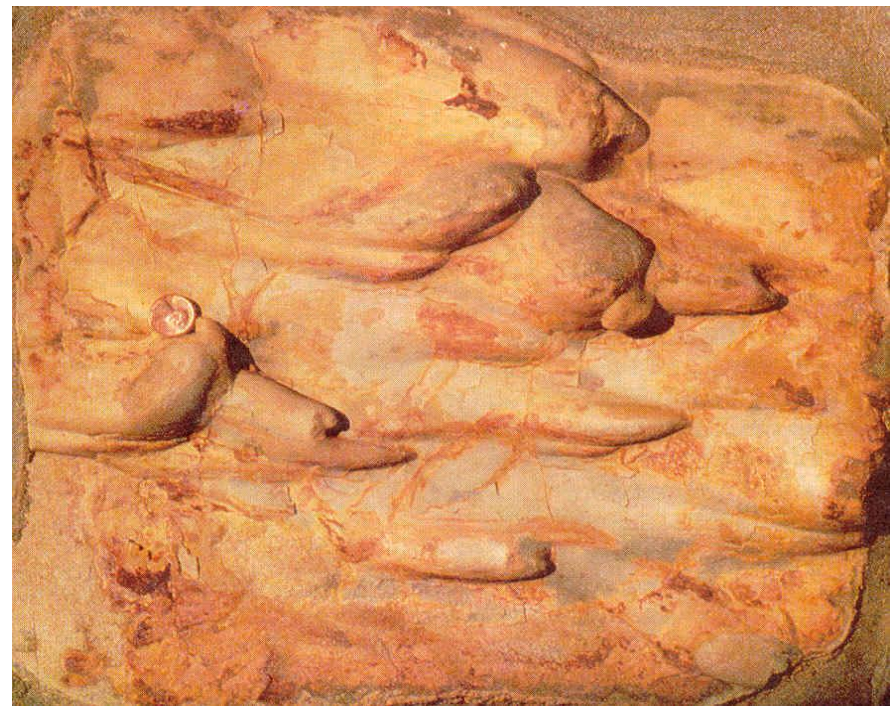
When clay-rich sediments dry, it shrinks and forms intersecting fractures known as mud cracks. They indicate that the sediment was deposited where periodic drying was possible, as on a river floodplain, near a lakeshore, or where muddy deposits are exposed on marine shorelines at low tide.



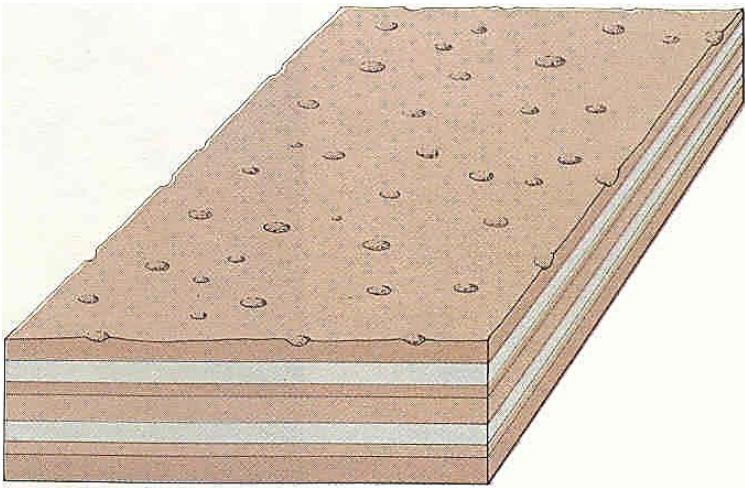




**Flute marks**



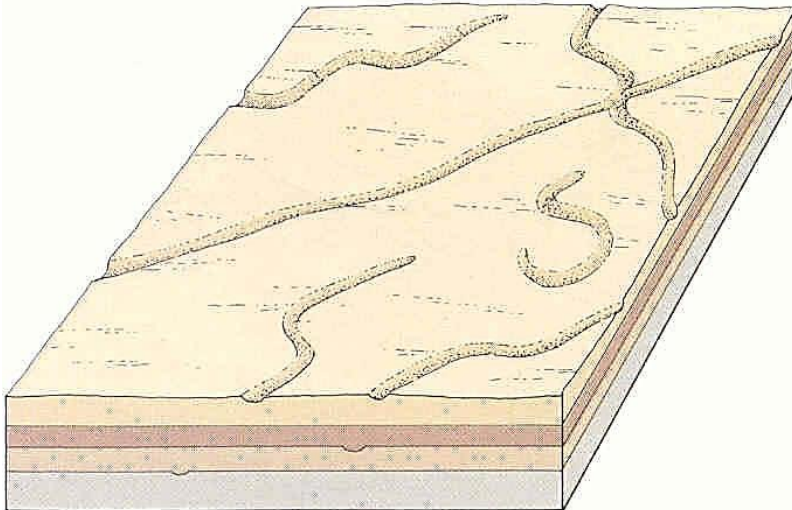
**Tool marks**



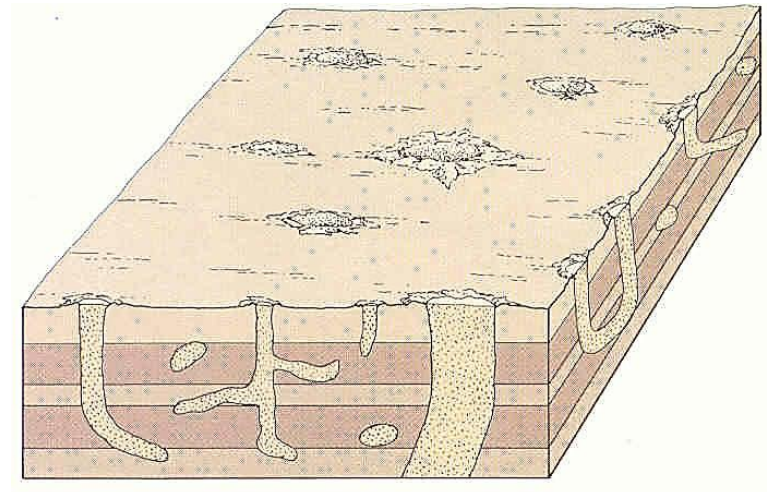
**Raindrop prints in mud or shale**



**Tracks**



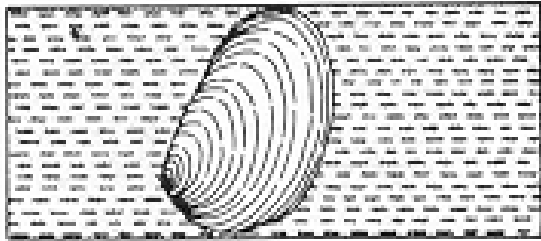
**Trails in fine-grained sediments**



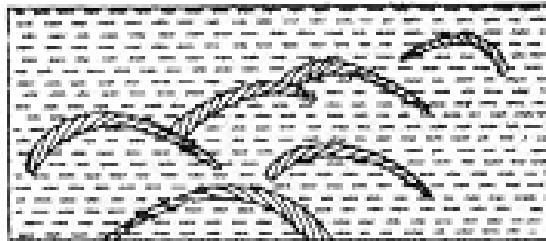
**Burrows**

# **Fossils**

The remains or traces of ancient organisms.



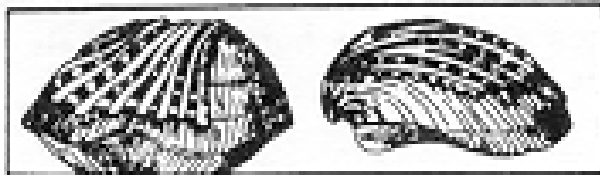
(a)



(b)



(c)



(e)



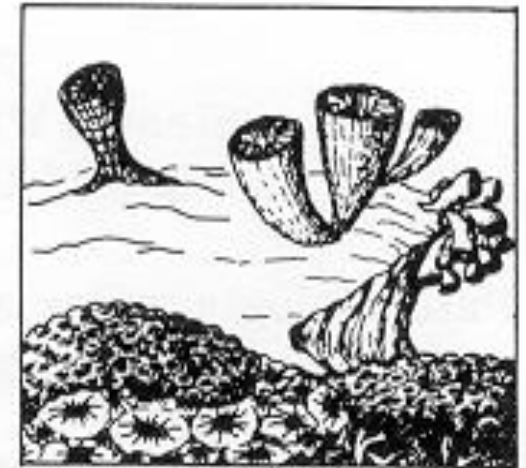
(f)



(g)



(h)



(d)

# IMPORTANT RESOURCES IN SEDIMENTS AND SEDIMENTARY ROCKS

**Sand** and **gravel** are essential to the construction industry

**Pure clay** deposits are used for ceramics,

**Limestone** is used in the manufacture of cement and in blast furnaces where iron is refined to make steel,

**Evaporites** are the source of **table salt** as well as a number of chemical compounds, and **rock gypsum** is used to manufacture wallboard,

**Silica sand (quartz sand)** is used for manufacturing glass, refractory bricks for blast furnaces, molds for casting iron, aluminum, and copper alloys.

**Placer deposits** are surface accumulations resulting from the separation and concentration of materials of greater density from those of less density in streams and on beaches. **Gold, diamond, tin** are important placer deposits.

**Phosphate-bearing sediment,**

**Diatomite** (light weight-porous sedimentary rock),

**Natural gas, Petroleum, Oil shale and Tar sands, Coal**

**Uranium, Banded iron formation**