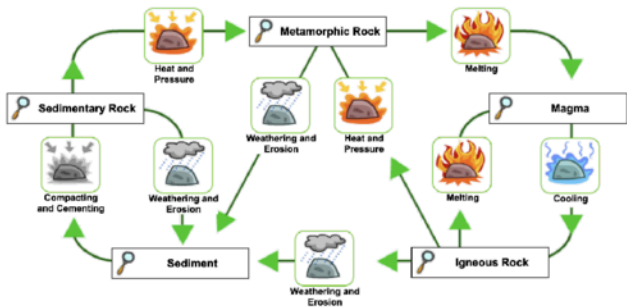
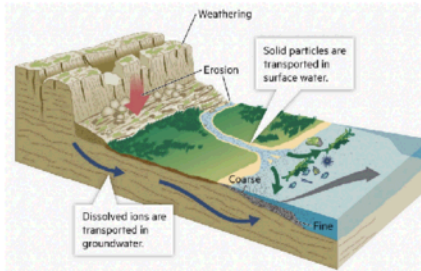


The Rock Cycle



- Rock cycle provides explanations for:
 - Earth's major surface processes
 - Geologic distribution of earthquakes, volcanoes, and mountains
 - Distribution of ancient organisms and mineral deposits
- Erosion:** Natural forces such as wind, water, ice, and gravity pick up and move weathered rock particles
- Sediment:** Eroded material that gets transported + accumulated elsewhere
- As material erodes, it deposits + accumulates at the foot of mountains, on plains where rivers have flooded, at mouths of rivers and streams, or around reefs



- Dissolved ions are transported in groundwater where compaction + cementation occur due to the weight of overlying materials

Why Are Minerals Important & How Do We Get Them?

- Geological processes influence distribution of rocks and minerals in lithosphere
- Rock:** Solid aggregation of minerals
- Mineral:** Naturally occurring solids from Earth's crust that form rocks + provide materials for products, such as electronics, cell phones, & solar panels
 - Metals:
 - Iron, aluminum, manganese, copper + chromium, nickel
 - Gemstones + precious metals
 - Sand + gravel