

Try This

Mountain breaker

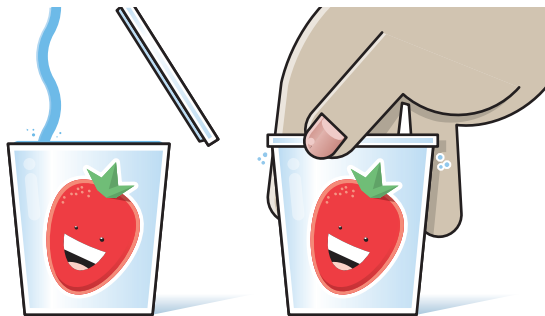
Water can break down mountains, or “erode” them, and here is one way it does that.

You'll need

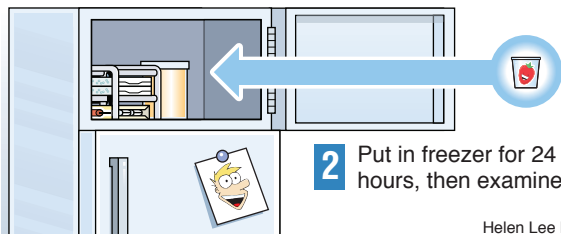
- Plastic food storage container or yogurt cup with a tight-fitting snap lid
- Freezer

Source: Bill Nye Science

Graphic:
Helen Lee McComas,
Paul Trap



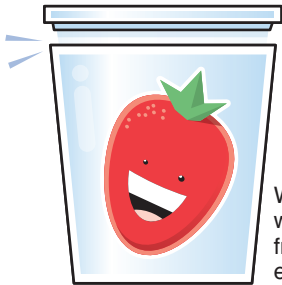
- 1 Fill container completely with water, and snap top on it, so there is no air trapped under the lid



- 2 Put in freezer for 24 hours, then examine it

Graphic:
Helen Lee McComas,
Paul Trap

What happened?



The water froze and popped out the lid

When water freezes, it expands

During the winter, water gets into cracks in rocks, and when it freezes and expands ...

... the rock cracks

Repeat this freeze-thaw cycle for millions of years, and water can break down huge mountains of stone

