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To group things together because they share one or more properties

### compaction

The process by which soil particles pack together

#### condensation

When water vapor cools to turn from a gas to a liquid

## aquifer

A layer of underground rock or sediment that contains water

delta

An area of land where a stream drops sediment and other materials as it empties into the sea or another large body of water. Such an area is called this because it is shaped like a triangle.

### deposition

The process by which water of a glacier lays down earth materials

### ecosystem

A community that includes all the living and nonliving things found in a certain area

#### erosion

The process by which earth materials such as rock and soil are worn away and moved

### evaporation

The process by which a liquid becomes a gas

## glacier

A huge mass of ice that moves very slowly over land

## ground water

Water that has soaked into the soil

hydroelectricity

Electricity that is generated by waterpower

### hydrologist

A scientist who studies how water circulates on the earth's surface, underground, and in the atmosphere

### iceberg

A large piece of ice that has broken off a glacier and has moved into the water

# irrigation

The process by
which humans supply
water to land by
artificial means such
as pipes

### landforms

The features of the earth's surface, such as mountains, plateaus, and plains

levee	High ridge along a stream or river that is intended to prevent flooding
meander	A large bend in a stream channel that develops when soil is eroded from one bank and deposited on the other
weathering	Process by which earth materials are broken down by natural forces

mountains	High, steeply sloped and uplifted areas of rock on the Earth's surface
plateaus	High but relatively level areas, often next to mountains, made of horizontal layers of rock
precipitation	Moisture from the atmosphere that falls to the Earth (includes rain, sleet, snow, hail)
plains	Relatively flat land that has been leveled either by erosion or the deposition of earth materials

mouth	The point where water from a stream enters a lake or ocean
source	The place where a river begins
pore space	Space between soil particles