Time scale statements

**Year 5**

1. Print and cut along the lines so there is one statement on each slip of paper (or write your own statements about weathering and erosion).
2. Label one end of the classroom ‘slow’ and the other ‘rapid’.
3. Distribute one statement to each pair and ask them to discuss it.
4. Pairs position themselves in the room based on where their weathering or erosion event sits on the time scale continuum.
5. Encourage discussion and allow students to re-arrange their order when they talk to other groups.

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| The local quarry extracts and crushes rocks for the construction of roads, pathways and building products. |
| Water travels slowly down a river. The riverbanks are covered in pristine forest including tall trees, ferns, ground covers and mosses. |
| Water travels slowly down a river. The riverbanks have had all trees and bushes removed for camping and to make swimming access easier. |
| Water travels rapidly through a narrow gorge and over a 60m high waterfall. |
| Rock wallabies jump across rocky outcrops. |
| A eucalypt seed sprouts in the crack in a rock. The roots begin to grow into the crack. |
| Strong winds pass over the outback. The ground is dry due to lack of rain and a rabbit plague has eaten nearly all vegetation. |
| Strong winds pass over the outback. The ground is dry due to lack of rain and a rabbit-proof fence excludes all rabbits from the huge nature park. Drought tolerant native plants still blanket the dry ground inside the nature park. |
| High on Mt Wellington in Tasmania water seeps into a narrow crack in a rock, then freezes and thaws repeatedly. |
| It is difficult to read the writing on a sandstone gravestone. Looking closely you can read the year 1880. |
| A glacier carves a u-shaped valley into rock high on a mountain. It will later be known as Blue Lake on Mt Kosciusko (NSW). |
| The softer rock erodes, leaving behind a massive sandstone rock covering 3.3 square kilometres, standing 345 meters high. It will become known as Uluru. |
| Hard granite, with vertical and horizontal fractures, lies beneath a layer of sandstone. Over time the sandstone erodes away, exposing the granite. More time passes and the sharper granite edges weather away, leaving rounded granite boulders perched on top of one another. These will later become known as Karlu Karlu(or Devil’s Marbles). |
| A flash flood deposits sediment through streets and inside houses in a low-lying valley. |
| Water containing dissolved minerals runs through cracks in the rock and drips into an underground cave, forming stalactites and stalagmites. |
| A cyclone hits the Queensland coast. Large waves erode the beach sand. |
| Heavy rain carves deeper ruts into a steep dirt farm track. |
| The edge of the sandpit is broken. Heavy overnight rain washes away a few buckets’ worth of sand. |
| Decaying organic matter releases a weak acid which affects small rocks in the same area, breaking them down to become part of the soil. |