

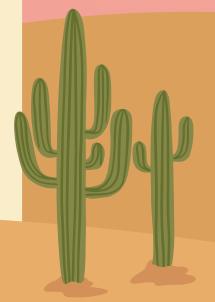
LESSON 34

EFFECTS OF Soil EROSION



Important Question

How does soil erosion affect us?

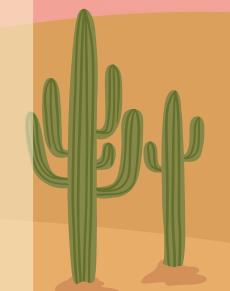




An eroded part of the mountain due to illegal logging.

Every natural process here on Earth, like soil erosion, affects both living and nonliving things. Soil erosion does not only shape Earth's landforms, it also affects the ecosystem especially if it happens abruptly.

Human activities such as deforestation, illegal logging, overgrazing, and quarrying also aggravate the affects of soil erosion in the environment.



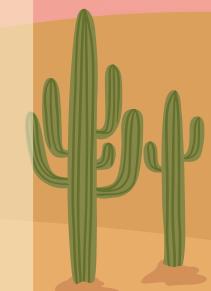


Dry and coarse soil because of too much soil erosion.

Effects of Soil Erosion on Landforms

Although soil erosion happens every time, the appearance and structure of a landform do not change overnight. It would take hundreds of years to change the appearance and structure of a certain landform. For instance, sand dunes would form after plenty of soil accumulate and form a huge mass over an existing large mass of rocks and soil. This process happens over and over again.

Soil erosion can destroy large masses of land. It can also transform a mountain to a hill or plateau. Excessive deforestation, mining, and conversion of mountains to residential or commercial lands could trigger erosion that can be destructive to the environment.

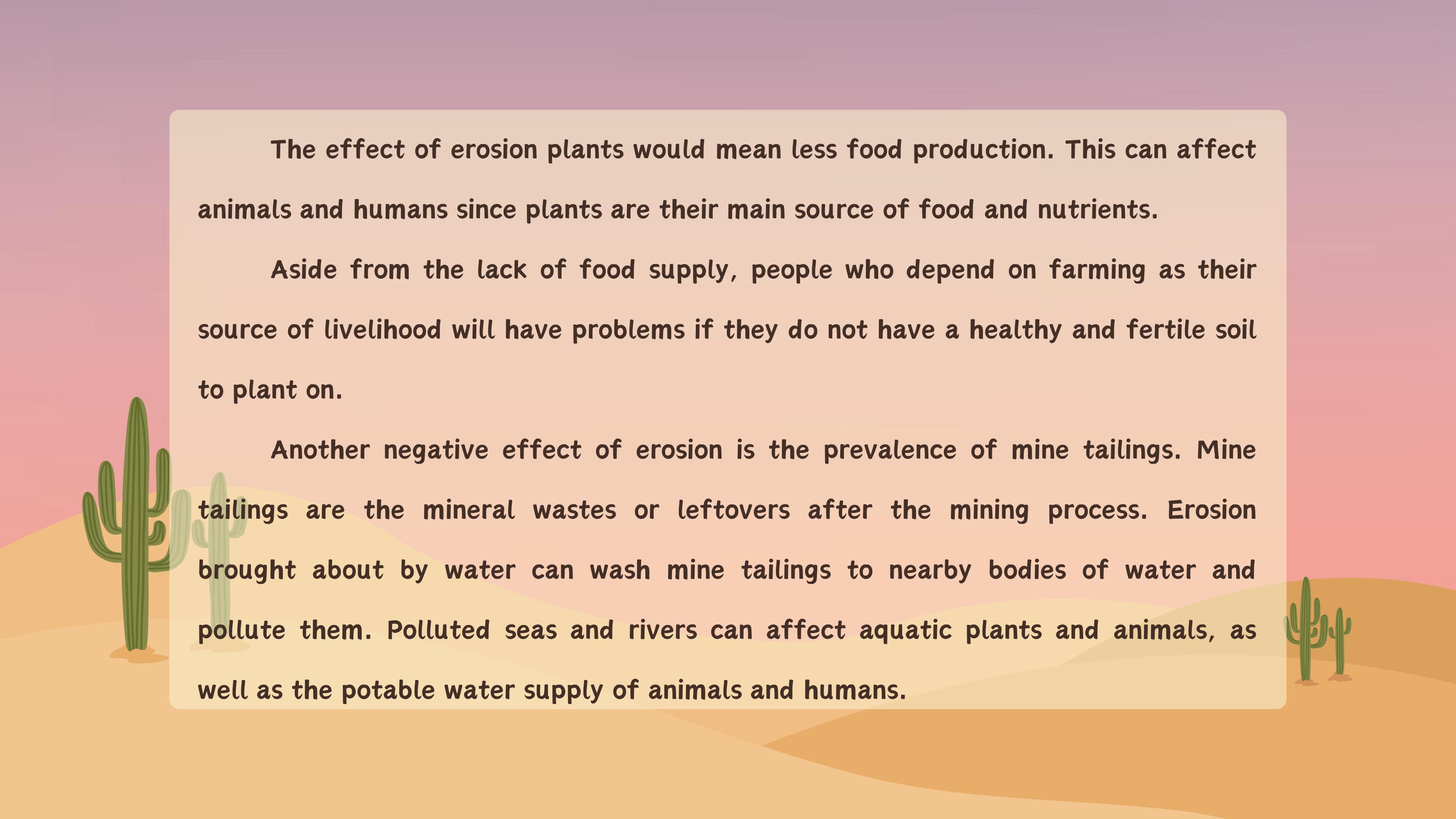


Effects of Soil Erosion on Living Things

Plants get most of its nutrients from the topsoil. The topsoil contains the organic materials produced by dead plants and animals. However, this topsoil is usually carried away by wind and water. Once the topsoil is gone, the nutrients for plants will be carried away by wind and water. Once the topsoil is gone, the nutrients for plants will be carried away as well.

Too much soil erosion makes the soil unable to hold or absorb water. This makes the soil dry, coarse, and eventually unfit for vegetation. In addition, sediments that are washed away by water can clog irrigation systems and can further inhibit the plant's water supply.





The effect of erosion plants would mean less food production. This can affect animals and humans since plants are their main source of food and nutrients.

Aside from the lack of food supply, people who depend on farming as their source of livelihood will have problems if they do not have a healthy and fertile soil to plant on.

Another negative effect of erosion is the prevalence of mine tailings. Mine tailings are the mineral wastes or leftovers after the mining process. Erosion brought about by water can wash mine tailings to nearby bodies of water and pollute them. Polluted seas and rivers can affect aquatic plants and animals, as well as the potable water supply of animals and humans.



THANK YOU SO MUCH!

RAISE YOUR HAND IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS FOR US