



Why are
beaches sandy?

Winter beaches

&

Summer beaches

Cut out match books.

Research Chapter 12 Beaches and add your own research or use the facts on the next page to glue inside each match book.

Weathering eventually causes mountains to become tiny pieces of rock called sediment.

Streams and rivers carry this sediment to bodies of water like ponds, lakes and oceans.

Sediment that reaches the ocean is first deposited on the beach.

But beaches are just a brief resting stop for sediment.

After sediment leaves a beach, it continues its journey to the deep ocean floor.

Fast-moving water will pick up large, heavy particles and slow-moving water will drop these particles.

Winter waves are stronger than summer waves on the east and west coasts of the United States.

Gentle summer waves tend to carry sand from deeper water onto beaches.

The stronger winter waves carry the sand back to deeper water .

This back-and-forth action creates two distinctly different environments on the same beach, a summer beach and a winter beach.