

7.4.2

Part 1: Scientific Reading: Sea Level Rise, Erosion and Weathering

Focus Question: How would sea level rise shape the land in Oakland?

What are other ways water could reshape the land?

Temperatures Rising, Sea Levels Too

Recently, archaeologists found a clue that sea levels are rising in Miami, Florida. They were looking for artifacts from the Tequesta Indians and discovered 10 bricks from the 1860s (see Figure 1). What surprised the scientists was where they uncovered the bricks. He found them about a foot under the water table, below

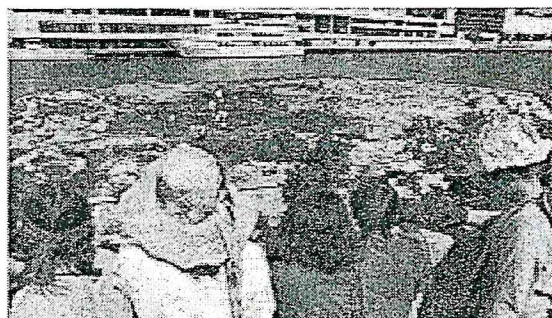


Figure 1. Students look down on the "Miami Circle," a site believed to be the site of a 2,000-year-old Tequesta Indian village. It was discovered last year on a construction site on the south bank of the Miami River in Florida. Photo: AP Photo/Wilfredo Lee

where the dirt becomes wet from water underneath the ground. In coastal areas, a rise in sea level makes the water table level rise, too. The bricks would not have existed on land that was underwater. Therefore, they prove that sea level in the area had risen more than a foot in the last 100 years.

1. What is the central message of paragraph #1? Draw 2 lines under the sentence and write it in your own words. Sea levels are rising in coastal areas.

2. Underline the detail/evidence used to support the main idea from paragraph #1. Write the detail in your own words. 10 bricks one foot underwater.
Dirt and sediment wet from water

Scientists think rising sea levels are connected to a steady rise in temperature known as global warming. Experts believe global warming is caused by pollution **accelerated** by cars burning gasoline **emitting** even more carbon. With rising sea levels, imagine how this change could affect coastal regions like Oakland, California?

3.Cause	Effect
Global warming/pollution Emitting gas.	Rising Sea Levels