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**Natural Sorting Lab**

1. In nature, the action of many different forces can “stir” things up quite a bit. With your group, brainstorm at least 4 places where sediments would naturally be sorted and separated.

2. Your group will receive a tube with water, dirt, sand and rocks in it. What do you think will happen if you shake the tube and set it on the table? Draw a prediction of what you think will happen on the left and explain. Then, shake the tube really well and let the particles settle. After a minute or so, draw the results on the right.

 **Prediction Actual**



**Reasoning: Why did this happen?**

3. Where would something like this happen in nature?

4. How does this compare to the videos?

5. Now try swishing the tube gently side to side for 30 seconds. Draw below.

Description of your drawing:

6. How does this compare to the last experiment? Why do you think these results occurred?

7. Where would something like this happen in nature?

8. Based on what you have seen in the tubes, density is not the only factor that helps things sort in nature. What is the other factor that naturally separates things?

9. Let’s say you have a stream bed and all different sizes of rocks are being carried in the water. As the stream slows down the sediment begins to settle down, which size of rock would you expect to be carried the furthest and settle last? The largest size or smallest size? **Explain your reasoning.**

10. Summarize what you have learned about natural sorting today.