

Planet Earth and Beyond Questions

Trend task

Approach: Independent

Level: Year 4 and year 8

Focus: Knowledge and understanding about ecological, geological and astronomical phenomena.

Resources: None

Questions/instructions:

1. If you throw these things away outside, which will decay fastest?

- | | | % responses | |
|---------------------|---|-------------|------------|
| | | 1999 ('95) | 1999 ('95) |
| | | year 4 | year 8 |
| a. a paper bag | ✓ | 49 (53) | 78 (81) |
| b. a glass bottle | | 15 (16) | 7 (5) |
| c. a metal can | | 21 (12) | 8 (7) |
| d. a plastic bottle | | 24 (19) | 7(7) |

2. Stars are bigger than the moon, but they appear to be smaller when you look at them.

Explain why.

mentions distance
(eg., stars are further away) 82 (78) 86 (87)

3. The picture shows two different mountains.



The mountains in Picture A are rough and jagged.

The mountains in Picture B are smooth and rounded.

Which statement about the age of these mountains is probably true?

- | | | % responses | |
|--|---|-------------|------------|
| | | 1999 ('95) | 1999 ('95) |
| | | year 4 | year 8 |
| a. the mountains in picture A are older | | - | 29 (28) |
| b. the mountains in picture B are older | ✓ | - | 29 (27) |
| c. the mountains are about the same age | | - | 4 (3) |
| d. the pictures don't give any information about the age of mountains. | | - | 38 (42) |