

Name: _____

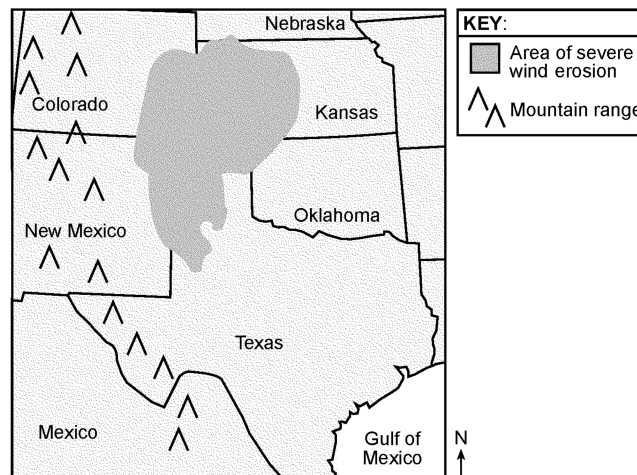
Date: _____ Period: _____

Supplemental: Mass Movement, Wind, & Waves

In the 1930s, several years of drought affected over 100 million acres in the Great Plains from North Dakota to Texas. For several decades before this drought, farmers had plowed the prairie and loosened the soil. When the soil became extremely dry from lack of rain, strong prairie winds easily removed huge amounts of soil from the farms, forming dust storms. This region was called the Dust Bowl.

In the spring of 1934, a windstorm lasting a day and a half created a dust cloud nearly 2,000 kilometers long and caused muddy rains in New York State and black snow in Vermont. Months later, a Colorado storm carried dust approximately 3 kilometers up into the atmosphere and transported it 3,000 kilometers, creating twilight conditions at midday in New York State.

A Portion of the Dust Bowl in the Southern Great Plains



1. Identify *one* human activity that was a major cause of the huge dust storms that formed in the 1930s.
2. Describe *one* change in the appearance of the sand particles that were abraded when transported by winds within the Dust Bowl region.
3. Explain why the dust clouds that moved to the east coast of the United States during the 1934 storm were composed mostly of silt and clay particles instead of sand.