Rock Solid Worksheet Answers

1. What are the two ways that stress can be caused in nature?
   - movement of the earth’s crust
   - weathering

2. What are the three types of stress?
   - tensional
   - compressional
   - shear

3. What are the three types of weathering?
   - physical (such as wind, water, freezing, repeated wetting and drying)
   - chemical (such as rust, acid rain)
   - biological (such as tree roots, animals, human activity)

4. Which type of weathering is not a type of stress?
   - chemical

5. How does an engineer test the strength of a rock?
   - Examine it carefully to learn characteristics such as color, texture, structure, shininess, hardness, the way it breaks, etc.
   - Stress test a sample.

6. Why do we care how strong a rock is?
   - For safety.
   - Some natural disasters are caused by breaking rocks.
   - Structures that are built on or near rocks may be damaged (and people hurt) if the rocks move or break as part of a natural disaster such as an earthquake, volcano or landslide.