**Shaping the Land:**

**An Introduction Activity to the**

**Processes that Shape Our Earth**

*Introduction:*

*As Californians, we are privileged to enjoy a number of beautiful beaches along the coast of the Pacific, that borders the west side of our beautiful, sunny state. Bordering those beaches, we can often see majestic, rocky mountains. We should consider us truly blessed to be able to witness these two rather different profiles and structures of our land lying side-by-side. It cannot but help inspire curiosity as to exactly how this all came to be. With that said, let’s explore and learn about our the land of our Earth!*

***Instructions:***

***Read each instruction and question below. Answer each question with thorough detail.***

1. Think of your favorite beach. How do you think the sand on the beach came to exist?
2. Find pictures of two different types of beaches (2 beaches). (For example, find one with really fine, small grains of sand, and perhaps another with bigger grains of sand with lots of pebbles).

In the boxes below, sketch, **WITH DETAIL** exactly what each beach looks like. Label the names of the beaches beneath each box:

Location/ Location/

Name of Beach: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Name of Beach:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Write at least 3 things that are similar about the beaches and at least 3 things that are different between the two beaches? Record any other observations you might make about the beaches (particularly its sand).
2. Why do you think these differences exist?
3. Which beach do you think is older and **explain why**? How long do you think it takes to make a beach? Why do you think so?
4. How do you think beaches form? What processes do you think might be at play in the formation of a beach?
5. Look at the following picture of a statue by the sculptor, Stefano Costanzo. In the box beside the picture, sketch what you think this statue ORIGINALLY LOOKED LIE. What do you think happened to this statue? Why? (Answer on separate sheet of paper if you run out of room below).

