

Name _____ Date _____

Quicksand

Stories of people and animals sinking into quicksand have been told for hundreds of years. although some of the stories may be true, it helps to understand what quicksand really is.

Quicksand is a deep bed of light, loose sand that is full of water. On the surface it looks much like regular sand, but it is really very different. Regular sand is packed firmly and can be walked on. Since quicksand is loose and full of water, it cannot support much weight.

Quicksand usually develops around rivers and lakes. Water collects in the sand and does not drain away. It continues to collect until the sand becomes soft.

Although some objects can float in quicksand, it cannot support the heavy weight of an animal or person.

Fill in the blanks below with the correct word.

1. Quicksand is a _____ bed of light.
2. Quicksand is _____ sand that is full of water.
3. On the _____, it looks like regular sand.
4. Quicksand cannot _____ much weight.
5. Quicksand usually _____ around rivers and lakes.
6. Water collects in the sand and doesn't _____ away.
7. Water continues to _____ until the sand becomes soft.
8. Some objects can _____ in quicksand.

Name _____ Date _____

Quicksand - Answers

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1. Quicksand is a **deep** bed of light.
2. Quicksand is **loose** sand that is full of water.
3. On the **surface**, it looks like regular sand.
4. Quicksand cannot **support** much weight.
5. Quicksand usually **develops** around rivers and lakes.
6. Water collects in the sand and doesn't **drain** away.
7. Water continues to **collect** until the sand becomes soft.
8. Some objects can **float** in quicksand.