

CREEPING ICE

By Amy and Lynn. Pictures by Lynn and report by Amy.

Hypothesis

I thought that the cards on the bottom would stay where they were, and that the cards as they moved towards the top of the stack would move forward moving the weight somewhat like a conveyor belt.

Method

We placed a stack of cards on top of a board and on top we placed a block of wood and we used it like a weight. We then tilted one end of the board upwards.

Results

The cards shifted forward and moved the block of wood along to the table. The cards were in something like a kind of staircase pattern. The cards at the bottom of the stack stayed where the block started and the cards on top moved forward.

Conclusions

The cards on the bottom of the stack are like ice at the bottom of a glacier and stay where they are and the cards towards the top of the stack are like the ice crystals that slide the glacier forward. When the weight of the glacier presses on the ice crystals, it slides the glacier forward.