

Erosion and Deposition ▪ *Enrich***Profile of a Glacier**

The authors of your textbook sent out forms to glaciers around the world, asking the glaciers for basic information about themselves. Here is the form sent back by Ms. Mendenhall Glacier.

Name Mendenhall Glacier **Date** April 1, 2004

Place of Birth In the mountains north of Juneau, Alaska

Current Residence Generally the same as place of birth, though I am retreating a little each year. My precise location is 59° N 134° W.

Date of Birth I really can't remember my date of birth, but it's likely that I was born thousands or even millions of years ago.

Type of Glacier I am definitely a valley glacier, and I'm proud of it.

Size I'm only about 100 square kilometers. That's not particularly large for a glacier, but I'm good-looking. I take a great picture, especially from above.

Neighbors I have many glacier neighbors in the area. There are several right around me. But the neighbors I really love are to the west, over in Glacier Bay National Park. There, 12 glaciers have their terminuses, or ends, in Glacier Bay. In fact, those glaciers often "calve" into the bay. Calving occurs when part of the glacier breaks off and falls into a bay or any body of water. I do some calving myself, into Mendenhall Lake. By the way, the largest glacier in North America is not too far away, though I'm not sure he's really a neighbor. That's Malaspina Glacier, which covers about 5,000 square kilometers to the north of Glacier Bay National Park.

Friends Thousands of human friends visit me each year. Most come from Juneau, the capital of Alaska. It's only 21 kilometers up the road from Juneau to my visitor center. If you don't have a car, you can always take a bus.

Answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Where is Mendenhall Glacier?
2. What type of glacier is it, and how big is it?
3. If you visited Glacier Bay National Park, what glaciers would you see?
4. What is the largest glacier in North America, and how large is it?
5. What does it mean when a glacier calves?