

Glaciers – A Natural Force

Note-taking Guide: Answer Key

*Shrink, U-shaped, retreating, gravity, meltwater, rocks,
force, melt, upper, ice, lakes,*

A large, heavy body of ice is called a glacier caused it to look the way it does today.

Glaciers are an important natural force that can change Earth's surface.

Glaciers move under the influence of gravity.

The weight of the icy upper layers of a glacier makes the lowest layer melt and turn to water.

Over millions of years, glaciers can form U-shaped valleys because of their weight and slow movement.

The meltwater left behind from glaciers can also sometimes accumulate in depressions on Earth's surface to form lakes.

When glaciers melt and shrink in size, they are said to be retreating.

When glaciers retreat, they deposit the rocks that they have been dragging along for thousands of miles.