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Content area: Earth's Changing Surface, grade 2
STeLLA Strategy: Ask questions to elicit student ideas and predictions. Ask questions to probe student ideas and predictions. Ask questions to challenge student thinking. Engage students in constructing explanations and arguments.
Context: This clip shows a small group working on a book about rivers and deltas. Students are thinking about what change they might see if the delta and how fast the change is occurring.

0:00:03 T Okay, how are you all doing here? Have you decided if it could change or not?
0:00:07 SN Yes, we have.
0:00:08 T How, how do you know it changes?
0:00:10 SN 'Cause there's a lot of different things like deltas
0:00:14 S The more river, the more stuff comes.
0:00:19 SN (Inaudible).
0:00:21 T Okay, so we're on this page right here. Okay.
0:00:24 T Okay, so, who can read that for me? Who hasn't had a chance to read?
0:00:28 T Okay, you wanna read for me?
0:00:29 SN This is the delta of the Mississippi River. This is where the soil and rock drop into the land.
0:00:37 S After a long journey in the river, the soil rocks pile up...and from the river delta.
0:00:44 T Okay, is that "*from* the ri- the river delta"? Look at that word again.
0:00:47 S/T Form. / Form! Okay, so it makes a river delta. So what's making a river delta?
0:00:52 SN The rocks and soil.
0:00:54 T And how are the rocks and soil getting there?
0:00:57 S By the Mississippi River.
0:01:00 T Is it just the Mississippi River? Could it be a different river?
0:01:03 S/T Yes. / Yeah, in this case, yeah, it could be a-
0:01:06 T So let's turn the page now. Turn the page. So we know rocks and soil can be carried by a river.
0:01:11 T And then they drop it at the delt- and make a delta. Look at the map there. Let's look at these two maps. Okay?
0:01:20 T Nikita, turn the page. Turn the page.
0:01:27 T Okay, we're on this page right here. This page right here.
0:01:30 T Okay, look at the maps. Okay, do you know what these numbers on the bottom mean?
0:01:36 SN/SN How long it is. / That is the time.
0:01:37 T Oh, time. Okay, what do you think?
0:01:39 SN How long it is.
0:01:40 T How long it is. Okay, so if you see the word-

0:01:42 SN How fast it goes.

0:01:43 T How fast it goes. That's some good predictions. Okay, now, it is time. It has to do with time.

0:01:49 T And if you see "A.D." after something, that means it's the year. So this is the year 0, and what year is this?

0:01:58 SS/T 2000. / 2000.

0:02:00 T Okay. So this was in the year 0, this is in the year 2000. Are these two-

0:02:06 T This is a picture of the Mississippi River Delta. Both of them. Are these the same?

0:02:10 SS No.

0:02:11 T What do you notice?

0:02:13 SN/SN One of them's smaller, one of them is bigger. / The 2000 A.D. changed over time.

0:02:18 T Okay. Changed over time. And what did you just say?

0:02:22 SN One of them's smaller, one of them is bigger.

0:02:24 T What do you mean, smaller and bigger, by that?

0:02:27 S/T This part- / So do you remember what this is called? It's the- what's the name for it?

0:02:30 SN Delta.

0:02:32 SS Delta.

0:02:33 T Okay, Delta. How- Okay, so this one's what?

0:02:38 SN Delta.

0:02:39 T Uh-huh, is what?

0:02:40 S Um...

0:02:41 T This is smaller?

0:02:41 SN/SN This one's smaller / (Inaudible).

0:02:44 T And this one is...

0:02:45 SS Bigger.

0:02:46 T How do you think they change- how do they think it changed?

0:02:48 SN 'Cause over a year time, maybe people threw stuff, like dirt, and then it got way bigger.

0:02:56 T Well, how does a delta form? Do you remember how a delta forms?

0:02:58 SN Ooh.

0:02:59 SN/T Yes. / How does a delta form?

0:03:00 SN Um, it forms by...

0:03:09 S/T Dirt. / In- in a what?

0:03:11 S In a delta.

0:03:12 T No, not in a delta. What's the-

0:03:13 S River.

0:03:14 T In a river. Okay, so your question is here. Do you think a river can change the land?

0:03:20 SS Yes.

0:03:22 T Well, what's your evidence?

0:03:23 SN Well...

0:03:24 T Ah...

0:03:26 T You- Okay. So you need to make your claim, but you need to tell me why you think it changes the land.

0:03:31. T Look at your maps, okay? I'll come back and check with you.