

Everything Rocks

Lesson Summary

Learning Outcomes

- There are three types of rocks: igneous, metamorphic, and sedimentary.
- Rocks are formed through the rock cycle and can be transformed by different processes into other types of rock.
- Rocks have seven properties: size, color, pattern, texture, weight, luster, shape.
- A rock can be identified by looking at its properties.

Vocabulary

Igneous - rocks formed from magma or lava

Metamorphic - rocks formed from other rocks that are changed physically or chemically in the mantle by heat and pressure

Sedimentary - rocks formed from sediments compressed together over time

Sediment - solid material made of loose particles (i.e. sand, silt, pebbles, clay)

Magma - molten rock material inside the Earth

Lava - molten rock on the surface of the Earth

Erosion - the process by which something is worn away

Core - the center of the Earth

Mantle - the middle section of the earth which is very hot and molten

Crust - the outer section of the Earth which is solid

Luster - the appearance of the surface of a rock based on how it reflects light

Geologist - a scientist who studies the Earth, including the formation of rocks

Summary of Trip Activities

Trip activities may occur in a different order and/or the class may be shortened if your group is late. The educators may also change elements based on their assessment of students' needs.

Rock Properties

Seated at tables indoors, students will examine rocks in small groups to learn about rock properties.

Rock Cycle

Seated at tables indoors, we will learn about the rock cycle through demonstrations and samples of rocks.

Playdoh Rock Cycle

Seated at tables, students will each recreate the rock cycle using playdoh with full class instruction.

Rock Walk

Outdoors, we will take a rock walk to see boulders and practice identifying them using guides.