

SCHOLASTIC DISCOVER MORE:

Rocks and Minerals

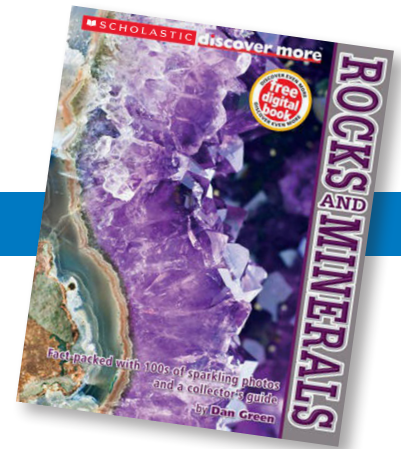
A RIF GUIDE FOR COMMUNITY COORDINATORS

Themes: Earth Science, History

Book Brief: A fun, informative book with colorful pictures and interesting facts about rocks and minerals.

Author:

Dan Green



TIME TO READ!

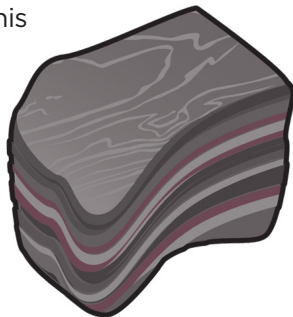
Before reading: Introduce this book in sections to the children; don't try to read it all at once. Let them look at the pictures and text features. Discuss uses of rocks and minerals in everyday life.

RELATED ACTIVITIES

PLAY DOUGH ROCK CYCLE (AGES 5-12)

Materials: 3 different colors of play dough, wax paper

Have children roll play dough into 1" - 2" balls. Each color represents one of the three main types of rock: igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic. Place the three colored balls on a piece of wax paper to represent igneous rocks. Break each ball into small pieces. Layer pieces on top of one another, representing the layering effect of sedimentary rocks. Press layers together with palm. Have children hold up the layered colors of play dough to see the sedimentary layers. Next, roll layered play dough into a ball. Apply heat and pressure with hand to mix the sedimentary layers together. This will cause the three colors to mix and turn the ball into another color, representing the metamorphic stage. The process can be repeated with different colors. Discuss the different stages of the rock cycle.



GROWING CRYSTALS (AGES 5-12)

Materials: clear plastic cups or small glass jars, string, paperclips, pencil, paper towels, table salt, spoon, scissors, water, food coloring (optional)

This activity can be done in groups or individually. Fill the plastic cup or jar with water. Add about 1/2 cup of salt and one drop of food coloring. Stir well. Cut a piece of string and tie it to the pencil. Attach a paperclip to the end of the string. Place the string with the paperclip end into the water/salt mixture so that it does not touch the bottom of the cup. Rest the pencil on top of the cup to balance. Cover the cup with a paper towel to keep out dust and dirt particles. Leave on a windowsill or table to watch crystals appear overnight! Have children observe the crystals' growth over time.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

OTHER BOOKS ABOUT ROCKS AND MINERALS

National Geographic Readers: Rocks and Minerals, Kathleen Zoehfeld (2012), *A Rock is Lively*, Dianna Aston (2012), *The Rock Factory: The Story About the Rock Cycle*, Jacqui Bailey (2006).



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