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ACTIVITY GUIDES

for Geology



Rocks and Fossils

Children learn through sensory activities, and rocks can provide many opportunities for sensory play. Drawing letters and shapes in sand or walking on rocks in barefeet are activities that may seem simple, but your child is gaining more than knowledge when they explore the outdoors. They are connecting to the earth, learning their limits, and building self-esteem.

Storytime Tips

Adding descriptive language when you interact with your child is beneficial. When your child says, “look at this rock,” you can repeat back while adding to the statement. “Yes, I see that rock. It looks very smooth. Let’s feel how smooth it is.” This shows that you are listening and expanding upon your child’s depth of knowledge regarding the physical properties of items.

Growth Tip

Knowing the properties of shapes is the first step to learning letters. Lines and circles are the basic building blocks for letters. The next step can be teaching the letters in your child’s name.

Additional Literature

Fossil by Bill Thomson

A Rock can be... by Laura Purdie Salas

Bring me a Rock by Daniel Miyares

CONTENT SHEET

Play, Explore, Discover!

Use the enclosed materials to help your child develop their understanding of the natural world around them. Allow your child to explore the items in this kit. Model how to use them while allowing freedom for them to come up with new ways to play with the toys. Here are a few things to try...

Molecular Set

Help your child explore the world of atoms through this play set. Make water (H₂O), salt (NaCl), and other common minerals found throughout our earth, and us!

Microscope

Enter a world of crystals and jewels through the eyes of our small creatures. Your child may discover that rocks are much more interesting than once thought, with a variety of textures, colors, and luster.

Making Connections

Help your child extend the learning and make connections with everyday activities. Below are a few ideas you might try.

- Jumpstart your child’s imagination. Collect rocks to make garden markers or creative art projects like those in “If Rocks Could Sing”
- Organize rocks by different groups: Size, Color, Shape, Texture, Weight, Type
- *You Are Stardust* is a beautifully written story, but it is grounded in scientific facts. Visit the website referenced on the last page for additional activities and more facts.

NAME OF ITEM	TYPE	QUANTITY
<i>You Are Stardust</i>	Book	1
<i>If Rocks Could Sing</i>	Book	1
<i>What are Rocks Made Of?</i>	Book	1
<i>Fossils and Rocks</i>	Book	1
Ohio Geology Collection	Book	1
Fossil Guide	Book	1
Pocket Microscope	Plastic	1 Microscope (batteries)
Atom-molecule Model	Various Plastics	Approx 40
Activity Guide	Laminated	1
Content Sheet	Laminated	1