

WRITING PROMPT

4

EARTH MATERIALS

Prompt

Use your observations to write a poem about your rock. Use the attached format.

Note to Teachers:

Day 1: Teacher reads “Everybody Needs a Rock” by Byrd Taylor.

Homework Assignment – Bring a rock.

Day 2: Students use senses(sight, touch and smell) to observe rock. List observations.

Teacher should model this type of poem and have the class write a poem together before working on individual poems.

Word Walls

rough
smooth
sparkle
shiny
jagged
luster
texture
compare
soft
hard

Writing Standards

- E2a – Report Writing
- E2b – Response to Literature
- E2c – Narrative Account
- E2d – Narrative Procedure

Science Standards

- S1 Physical Sciences Concepts
- S2 Life Sciences Concepts
- S3 Earth and Space Sciences Concepts
- S7 Scientific Communication

Sample Poem:

The bark of the tree is rough.
I could scratch my back on it the way cows do.
The leaves of the tree are like a green roof.
I could make my house in it.
The tree stays in the same place all the time.
I could never be so still.
The tree is taller than all the houses.
If I climbed tot he top I could see for miles.
When I pull off a leaf it doesn't make a sound.
I wonder if the tree feels anything.

Format:

Line one – Something you observed about the object
Line two – Relate the observation to yourself
Line three – A second observation about the object
Line four – Relate this observation to yourself
Line five – A third observation about the object
Line six – Relate this observation to yourself
Line seven – A fourth observation about the object
Line eight – Relate this observation to yourself
Line nine – A final observation about the object
Line ten – An “I wonder” question about the object

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Rocks are classified into three different groups: Sedimentary, Metamorphosis, Igneous. Select one of these types to research. Make a list of 3-5 questions you have about this type of rock. Do research to find the answers to your questions. Create a pamphlet or poster to display the information you found. You will share your pamphlets or posters with your classmates.

Word Walls

*dissolve
earth material
geologist
mineral
circumference
hardness
observation
identification
luster
diameter
weight
ingredient*

Writing Standards

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QUICK WRITES

GRADE 4

Earth Materials

Lesson No.

- 1 - 1 *Tell me what you know about earth materials.*
- 1 - 2 *Describe the tools you think a geologist would use.*
- 1 - 3 *Predict what you will see once the liquid has evaporated.*
- 1 - 4 *Explain the difference between a rock and a mineral.
Describe what you think the crystals are made of and where they come from.*
- 2 - 1 *Predict how geologists identify minerals with similar properties.*
- 2 - 2 *If the paperclip can scratch a mineral, do you think you need to try your fingernail or a penny? Tell why or why not.*
- 3 - 1 *Describe what you observed when vinegar was added to the calcite sample.*
- 3 - 2 *Tell me why you think it is important to set up two comparison dishes, one of vinegar and one of liquid from the calcite cup.*
- 3 - 3 *Have students list idioms and metaphors such as "Rocks in your head," and "Between a rock and a hard place."*
- 4 - 1 *Tell me how a rock and a chocolate cookie are alike.*

4 - 2

You just found a new rock! Describe how you would find out what minerals are in it.

4 - 3

Describe a monument you would like built to honor your friend or family. Be sure to tell what earth materials you would build it out of and why?

WORD WALL

Earth Materials

crystal	material	sample
dissolve	observation	identification
earth material	separate	observe
evaporate	settle	sort
geologist	texture	compare
mineral	hardness	investigate
property	observation	luster
rock	scratch	diameter
circumference	seriate	weight
depth	calcite	ingredient
rough	shiny	sparkle
smooth	jagged	