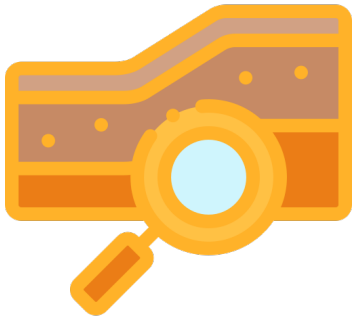


GEOLOGY FOR PRESCHOOLERS

Pick up a Rock!

Youngsters find rocks fascinating. The next time you are on a nature walk with your child, pick up a few rocks. Notice how unique each one is. These differences have a lot to say about the Earth and how it was formed.

What to Do



- * Rock or Not? Let your child sort a collection of rocks and other objects such as sponges, pottery shards, cement, bricks, paper clips, and seeds. Let him or her decide which are rocks and which are not.
- * Have your child then classify the rocks into categories of his/her choice: smooth, speckled, animal-shaped, etc.
- * Have your child select a favourite rock and examine it closely. What makes the rock so special? How does the rock smell? How does it feel? What happens to the rock when it gets wet? Will it float?

- * Organize the rocks according to their size, shape, colour;
- * Order rocks from smoothest to roughest. Try doing this blindfolded;
- * Fill a jar with rocks and predict how many are in the jar;
- * Trace and measure the different sides of a rock.



Rocks and Math

From “Geologist for a Day” by Karen K. Lind. Adapted from the Canadian Home and School and Parent-Teacher Federation *Resource Book for the Literacy Exchange*, 1990.

WEBSITES OF INTEREST:

uwaterloo.ca/earth-sciences-museum/resources/just-kids/minerals-kids
onegeology.org/extra/kids/rocks_and_minerals.html

