

Geology Activities

Rock n' with Rocks

Out east there is actually a park called Ringing Rocks. If you strike the rocks in this park with a hammer, it makes a musical ringing sound. The secret is the high iron content of the rocks. Find a place with lots of rocks; try tapping them with a hammer. You may discover ringing rocks in your local area. Let the music begin!

Sand/Salt Art

Let your artistic talents flow with sand/salt, glue and paper. Use sand or table salt and color these with food coloring. Use a glue stick to paint your picture then sprinkle with the colored sand/salt. Have fun with your textured "painting."

Chalk Drawings

Create a piece of art using chalk (a form of limestone rock.) Use the chalk to draw on black construction paper or on your sidewalk or driveway. You can also use another kind of soft mineral (graphite in your pencil) to create a drawing.

Rock Hunt

Read *Everybody Needs a Rock* by Byrd Baylor. Then follow the ten steps to go on a rock hunt and find your very own special rock!

Skipping Rocks

Choose a smooth, flat, round rock. These can usually be found along the lakeshore or by a river. Hold the flat rock between your thumb and index finger, with your hand crooked as if you are going to throw a Frisbee. Then, snap your wrist and let it fly or skip along the water's surface. How many skips can you get? Try it again and double your skips from the first throw. Have patience because this takes practice!

Books & Reference Guides:

Everybody Needs a Rock by Byrd Baylor

Fossils Tell of Long Ago by Alike

Geology, Pocket Naturalist, An Intro. To Familiar Rocks, Minerals & Gemstones

Rocks & Minerals, A Nature Fact Book by D.J. Arneson

Rocks & Fossils by Ray Oliver

Geology Rocks by Cindy Blobaum