

# *Rocks & Minerals*

## PLANNING GUIDE

### LESSON IDEAS

What is a rock?

The Rock Cycle

What is a mineral?

How are minerals formed?

Examining the difference between rocks and minerals?

Classifying Rocks

The Hardness Scale

Local Rocks & Minerals

### ACTIVITY IDEAS

Illustrating the Rock Cycle

Putting the Rock Cycle in Order

Sorting Rocks by Type

Identifying Rocks

Sorting Rocks & Minerals

Rock Crystal Experiment

Testing Rocks Using the Mohs Hardness Scale

### BOOKS

*The Practical Encyclopedia of Rocks & Minerals*, John Farndon

*Rocks, Gems, & Minerals (A Golden Guide)*, Paul R. Shaffer

*A Rock is Lively*, Dianna Hutts Aston

*Everybody Needs a Rock*, Byrd Baylor

*The Big Rock*, Bruce Hiscock

*If You Find a Rock*, Peggy Christian

*How to Dig a Hole to the Other Side of the World*, Faith McNulty

*A Rock Can Be...*, Laura Purdie Salas

*Nature Anatomy*, Julia Rotham

## **MATERIALS**

### **Amazon**

[Introductory Earth Science Rocks & Minerals Collection](#)

[Mega Gemstone Mine](#)

[Crystal Growing Lab](#)

### **Montessori Print Shop**

[Rocks: Igneous, Metamorphic, and Sedimentary](#)

- 3-part cards
- Classification Charts
- Information Cards
- Title Cards for Sorting

## **RESOURCES**

### **[RocksforKids.com](#)**

**Rocks: Igneous, Metamorphic, and Sedimentary**

<http://geology.com/rocks>

**Minerals: Uses, Properties, and Descriptions**

<http://geology.com/minerals>

**Specimen Identification Guide**

[https://www.clemson.edu/public/geomuseum/specimen\\_id/id\\_tool.html](https://www.clemson.edu/public/geomuseum/specimen_id/id_tool.html)

**Mohs Hardness Scale**

<http://geology.com/minerals/mohs-hardness-scale.shtml>