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Earth Science

My Rock Pet's Big Adventure!

UNIT 2 PROJECT

GRADES K–2



My Rock Pet's Big Adventure!

Minerals, fire rocks & layer rocks — a four-step adventure

AHS Worldwide | Earth Science | Unit 1 Project | A Guide for Parents

What Your Student Has Been Learning

Your child has learned that rocks are made of **minerals** (Lesson 9), that some rocks are "fire rocks" made from cooled melted rock (Lesson 10), and that others are "layer rocks" made from sand and mud pressed together (Lesson 11). Now they get a rock pet of their own, just like Stony, and use it to look for those clues.

HOW IT WORKS: Four short steps, about 10 minutes each, over two weeks. There are no wrong answers, and "I'm not sure yet" is a great scientist's answer. Younger children can point and talk while you write; older children can write their own answers.

The Plan

When	What your child does	Printable
Week 1	**Step 1** — Meet Your Rock Pet	ID Card
	Step 2 — Rock Tests & Fire Clues	Detective Log
	▶ **By Day 4:** upload one progress photo	
Week 2	**Step 3** — Layer Clues	Detective Log
	Step 4 — Tell Your Rock Pet's Story	Journey Map
	▶ **By Day 8:** upload the final project	

Both uploads go to the assignment in the **Record** section of your student's lesson.

What You'll Need

- ☐ One rock from outside, about the size of an egg
- ☐ A marker and crayons
- ☐ An old metal spoon
- ☐ A clear cup of water
- ☐ A sheet of dark paper
- ☐ A phone or camera

SAFETY: Keep the rock away from babies and toddlers, use gentle pressure for scratch tests (never a knife), and wash hands after the rock hunt.

Step 1 — Meet Your Rock Pet

Estimated Time to Complete: About 10 minutes | **Lesson Connection:** Lesson 9

Your child picks a rock, turns it into a rock pet, and looks for minerals.

What to Do

1. **Pick a rock** that fits in your hand, about the size of an egg.
2. **Rinse it and look closely.** Sparkly or shiny bits are minerals!
3. **Give it a face and a name,** then fill in the ID Card.

Talk About It: What "ingredients" (minerals) can you see in your rock pet?

Step 2 — Rock Tests & Fire Clues

Estimated Time to Complete: About 10 minutes | **Lesson Connection:** Lessons 9 and 10

Your child tests the rock and looks for clues that it was once melted (a fire rock).

What to Do

1. **Scratch test.** Scratch gently with a fingernail, then a spoon. Fingernail scratch = soft, spoon scratch = medium, no scratch = hard.
2. **Fire clues.** Look for speckles, glassy smooth spots, or tiny holes.
3. **Float test.** Guess, then drop it in water. Does it float or sink?

UPLOAD BY DAY 4: One photo of the rock pet with its ID Card and Detective Log.

Talk About It: Do you think your rock pet was ever melted? What clue tells you?

Step 3 — Layer Clues

Estimated Time to Complete: About 10 minutes | **Lesson Connection:** Lesson 11

Your child looks for clues that the rock was made from layers of sand and mud (a layer rock).

What to Do

1. **Layer clues.** Look for stripes, sandy grains, or a fossil print.
2. **Rub test.** Rub the rock on dark paper. Do sandy bits come off?
3. **Crack the case.** Circle fire rock, layer rock, or not sure yet on the Detective Log.

Talk About It: A layer rock is like a stack of pancakes. Which layer is the oldest?

Step 4 — Tell Your Rock Pet's Story

Estimated Time to Complete: About 10 minutes | **Lesson Connection:** Review of Lessons 9–11

Your child follows a rock's journey and shares their rock pet with the family.

What to Do

1. **Trace the path** on the Journey Map with a finger and draw where the rock pet goes next.
2. **Show & Tell.** Finish these sentences: “This is ____.” “I found a ____ clue.” “I think it was made by (fire / layers).”
3. **Take a short video** (under 1 minute) or a photo of the Show & Tell.

UPLOAD BY DAY 8: The Show & Tell video or photo, plus a photo of the rock pet with all three pages.

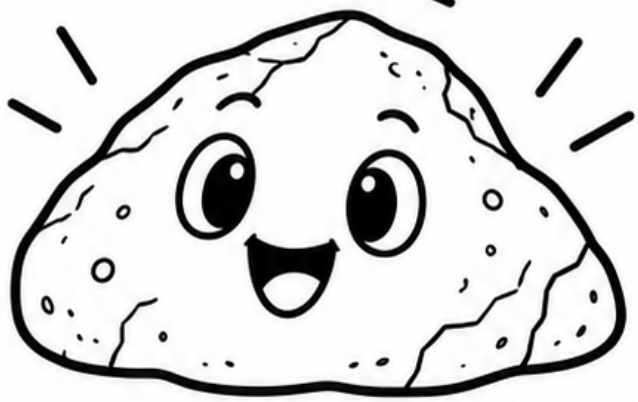
Talk About It: If your rock pet broke into tiny bits and rode down a river, what could it become next?

Want More? (all optional) Glue on googly eyes • spot granite speckles on a counter or bench • shake dirt and water in a jar and watch layers settle overnight • color the Journey Map • fill in the Rock Hound Certificate together.

MEET MY ROCK PET!

Draw, look, and name your rock!

Draw your rock pet.



My rock pet's name: _____

I found it in the:

☐ yard ☐ park ☐ garden ☐ path ☐ other

Shiny bits? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Next to an egg: ☐ smaller ☐ the same ☐ bigger



My rock pet's colors: _____

It feels: ☐ rough ☐ smooth ☐ bumpy ☐ heavy ☐ light

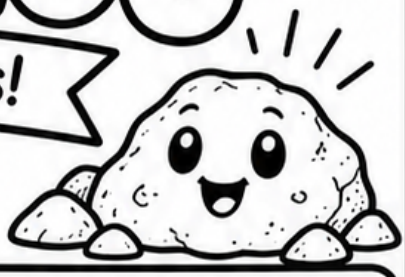
MY ADVENTURE TRACKER

Color one star each day.

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Meet	Scratch	Fire clues	Layer clues	My story

ROCK HOUND DETECTIVE LOG

Look. Test. Circle your clues!



Name: _____

DAY 2 • SCRATCH TEST



Did my fingernail scratch it? YES NO

Did the spoon scratch it? YES NO

My rock is:

☐ SOFT ☐ MEDIUM ☐ HARD

DAY 3 • FIRE CLUES



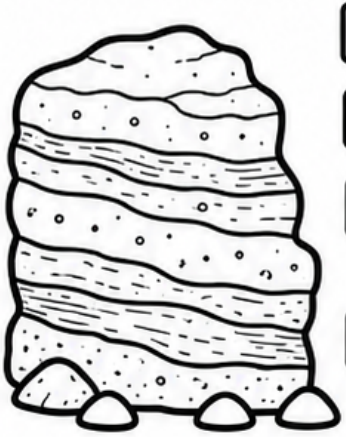
☐ Speckles ☐ Glassy & smooth ☐ Tiny holes

_____

In water:

☐ FLOATS ☐ SINKS

DAY 4 • LAYER CLUES



☐ Stripes or layers

☐ Sandy bits

☐ Bits rub off on dark paper

☐ A fossil print

DAY 5 • MY CLUES

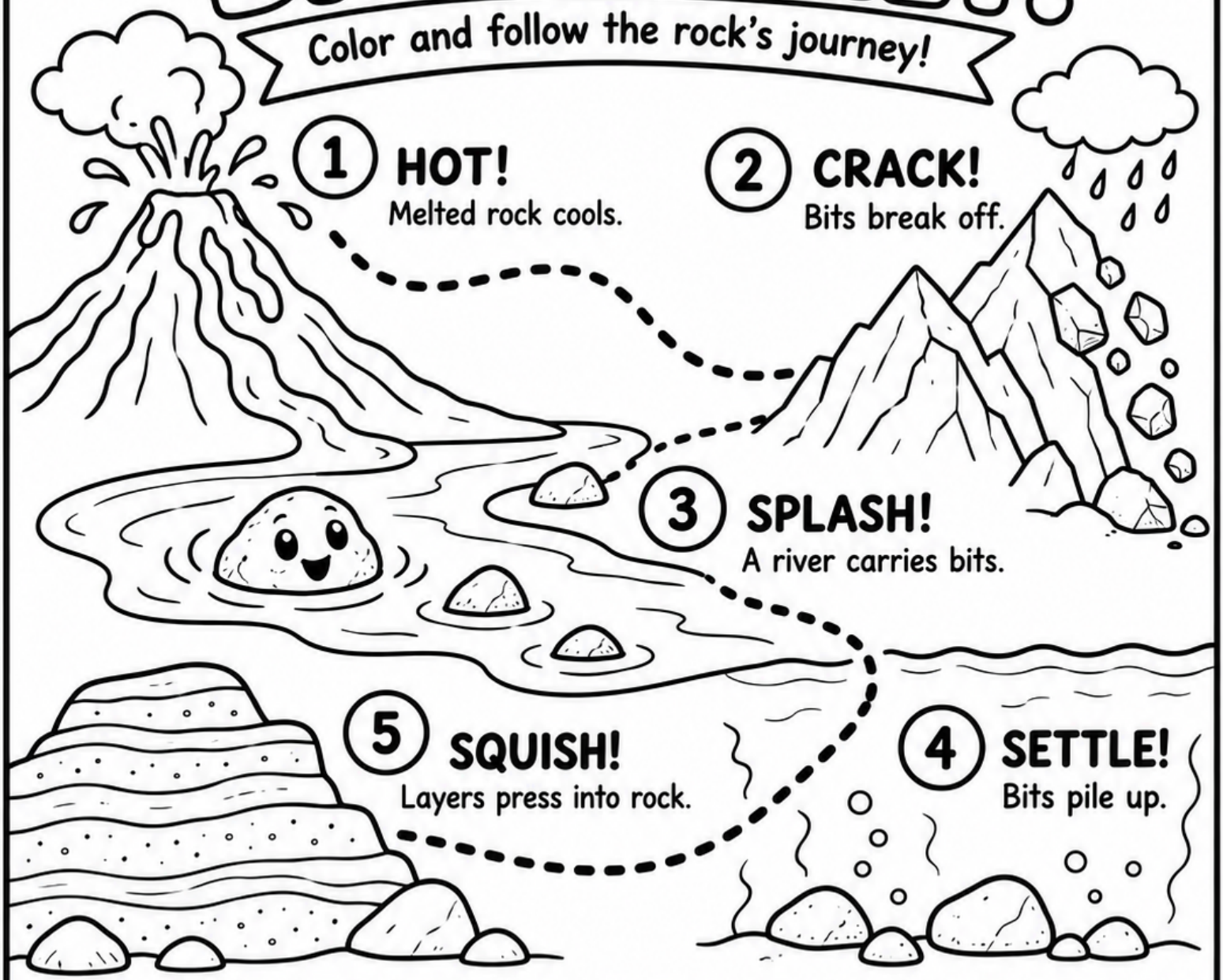


☐ FIRE (igneous) ☐ LAYERS (sedimentary) ☐ NOT SURE YET

Draw my best clue.

MY ROCK PET'S BIG JOURNEY!

Color and follow the rock's journey!



1 **HOT!**
Melted rock cools.

2 **CRACK!**
Bits break off.

3 **SPLASH!**
A river carries bits.

4 **SETTLE!**
Bits pile up.

5 **SQUISH!**
Layers press into rock.

Where might my rock pet go next? Draw it!

OFFICIAL ROCK HOUND!

Great work, rock hound!

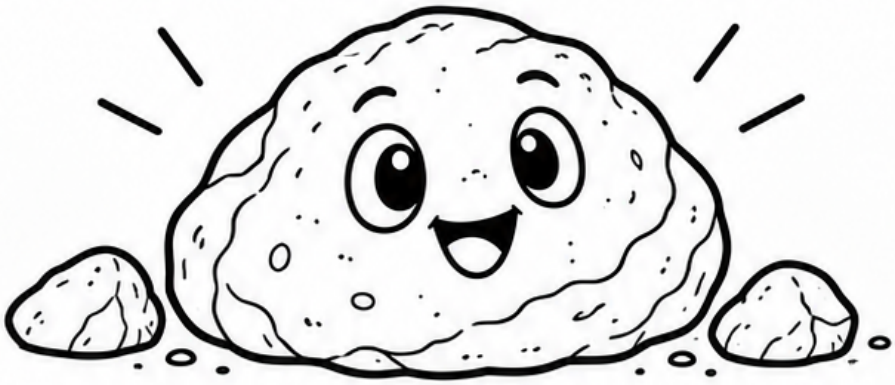
This certificate is proudly presented to

_____

young scientist

and rock pet

_____



for looking closely, testing carefully,
and telling the story of the stone!

MY ADVENTURE BADGES



Mineral Finder



Scratch Tester



Fire Clue Detective



Layer Clue Detective



Story Teller

_____ Date

_____ Parent / Teacher