

Learning Activity Template

Title: Igneous Rocks

Curriculum: Science

Grade-Level Span: Middle School.

PURPOSE:

Students will classify and identify rocks using a variety of characteristics. The students will describe the various processes and interactions of the rock cycle.

DESCRIPTION:

Teacher made PowerPoint to introduce igneous rocks. Student projects (digital photo of specific rock, internet research, create PowerPoint slides). Combine student projects into Igneous Rocks PowerPoint database. Share with class. PowerPoint Jeopardy for unit review.

ACTIVITIES	CURRICULUM STANDARDS	NETS PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
Present teacher made PowerPoint to class.	8.III.A	1
Students take digital pictures of their assigned rock.	8.III.A	1,3
Students use the internet to research their assigned rock.	8.III.A	1,5
Students create one or two PowerPoint slides on their assigned rocks. Slides include their digital picture and internet research results.	8.III.A	1,2,3,4,5
Combine student projects into single PowerPoint database and present to class.	8.III.A	4
Play PowerPoint Jeopardy to review unit	8.III.A	1

TOOLS AND RESOURCES:

(List all Web sites, specific software and hardware, and other needs.)

PowerPoint, digital camera, rock samples (a different rock for each student/group), internet search engine (we used Google – *web* for text, *image* for pictures)

ASSESSMENT:

(How will you assess the students' learning? If you have a rubric, record it here. Be as specific as possible.)

Student Slides Rubric

Slides must include:

- Digital picture from camera
- Picture imported from web
- Describe it (color, shiny/dull, rough/smooth)
- Is it intrusive or extrusive?

- What is the grain/crystal size?
- Why is the crystal/grain that size?
- How do people use this rock?
- Describe a unique or interesting characteristic of this rock.

CREDITS (INCLUDING CONTACT INFORMATION):

(Record the names and e-mail addresses, if possible, of those who contributed to the development of this learning activity.)

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COMMENTS:

(Have you taught this learning activity before? What are the great ah ha's/experiences you had?)

We have done similar units in the past. When introduced to new information, students seem to prefer a PowerPoint presentation rather than the traditional teacher lecture/read the book format. Students enjoy playing jeopardy. The students are impressed with the PowerPoint version. The students enjoy playing with the digital camera. They love adding sound and animation to their PowerPoint presentations.

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