

WOW! on Wheels – STEM Labs
EARTH SCIENCE ROCKS!

Activity 2: Investigating Rocks – Rock Worksheet

Rock	Type	Composition	Color/Description	Other observations (ex: texture)
1 Obsidian	Igneous Volcanic	Quartz, Feldspar		
2 Granite	Igneous Plutonic	Feldspar, Quartz, Mica		
3 Basalt	Igneous Volcanic	Feldspar, Pyroxene (another mineral)		
4 Pumice	Igneous Volcanic	Quartz, Feldspar		
5 Rhyolite	Igneous Volcanic	Feldspar, quartz, Mica		

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Rock	Type	Composition	Color/Description	Other observations (ex: texture)
6 Shale*	Sedimentary Clastic	Various, often Clay and Quartz		
7 Calcareous Tufa	Sedimentary Non-Clastic (chemical)	Calcium carbonate, Calcite and Quartz		
8 Sandstone	Sedimentary Clastic	Quartz, Calcite, Hemitite		
9 Conglomerate	Sedimentary Clastic	Quartz, Feldspar, other rocks		
10 Limestone	Sedimentary Non-Clastic (chemical)	Calcium carbonate, calcite, dolomite		

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Rock	Type	Composition	Color/ Description	Other observations (ex: texture)
11 Slate*	Metamorphic, foliated	Mica and other rock (shale)		
12 Marble	Metamorphic, non-foliated	Calcite, Dolomite		
13 Quartzite	Metamorphic, non-foliated	Quartz		
14 Gneiss	Metamorphic, foliated	Quartz, Feldspar, or Mica		
15 Schist	Metamorphic, foliated	Mica, Pyroxene		

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Questions:

1. Did rocks with the same mineral composition look familiar? Why do you think that is?

2. Was it easy to tell what type of rock it was? Why or why not?

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3. What practical uses do you think there is for some of these rocks, can you think of any examples?

4. Why might you want a “soft” rock? Why might you need a harder rock?