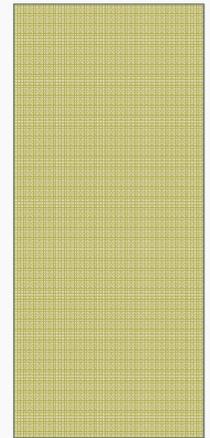


YOUNG GEOLOGIST

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YOUNG GEOLOGIST RATIONAL

The Young Geologist investigation began because the Jet class asked many questions about the rocks they saw. The children showed an interest in the rocks displayed in the science area of the Jet classroom and the rocks they were constantly finding outside. The children got the science center rocks out at different times throughout the day. The children touched and looked at the rocks as they explored the different types. They asked questions and described how some rocks felt the same/different. When they observed the rocks, they used tools like microscopes, magnifying glasses and rock testers.



CHARACTERISTICS OF ROCKS



The children were given the opportunity to pick a rock then trace and color the tracing. They explored color, size and weight. They also compared the similarities and differences between the rocks.

SINK OR FLOAT

The children made predictions as to whether a rock would sink or float. They made the prediction and then tested their hypothesis by dropping the rock into a tub of water. The results were recorded on a chart by each individual child.



FIELD WORK



The children went outside to practice being geologists. It gave them an opportunity to explore the playground to find rocks. The children were able to experience the elements because it was cold outside, and there was snow on the ground. They had to use tools to chisel the rocks out of the frozen ground.



The children developed social/emotional skills by working together as a team while they helped each other hold tools.



CHANGES OVER TIME

The children experimented with different catalysts on the rocks to observe if any changes occurred. Some of the catalysts were water, ice and vinegar. The most noticeable change the children observed was in the color of their rocks. Another observation made was when a child picked up two pieces of the rock and said, "My rock broke." Another child noticed the soil that was once attached to the rock was gone.



LIQUID OR SOLID



The children put water and their rocks into resealable plastic bags. The bags were left outside. The freezing temperatures turned the water to ice. When the children brought the bags inside, the ice melted and became water again. This gave the teacher the opportunity to talk more about weather. It also provided the children with new vocabulary as the class discussed liquids and solids, two of the 3 states or forms that water can be.



SCIENCE JOURNAL

The class used journals to document the processes and progress of what was happening during the investigation. The children drew and wrote about one of their favorite activities from the week or the changes they saw during experiments.

