Name: _____ Date: _____

Rocks Big and Small

Circle group

Rocks are all around us. Some are big. Some are small. You can sort rocks by how they look.

Look at the size. A boulder is as big as a car. A pebble fits in your hand.

Feel the rock. Some are smooth. Rocks in a river feel smooth. Water rubs them for a long time. Other rocks are rough and bumpy.

Look at the color. Rocks can be gray, white, black, red, or brown. Some have stripes or sparkly spots.

Sorting rocks is fun.

Questions

1. What are two ways to sort rocks?

_____

_____

2. How big is a boulder?

_____

_____

3. Why are river rocks smooth?

_____

_____

4. What colors can rocks be?

_____

_____

5. What else might you see on a rock?

_____

_____

Words to know

boulder: a very big rock
pebble: a small, round stone
smooth: flat and even, with no bumps

sort: to put things into groups

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Rocks Big and Small

Triangle group

Rocks are all around us. Some are big, and some are small. You can sort them by how they look.

Look at the size. A boulder is as big as a car. A pebble is small enough to fit in your hand.

Feel the rock. Some rocks are smooth. Rocks in a river often feel smooth because water rubs them for a long time. Other rocks are rough and bumpy.

Look at the color. Rocks can be gray, white, black, red, or brown. Some have stripes or sparkly spots.

Sorting rocks is a fun way to learn.

Questions

1. What are two ways to sort rocks?

_____

_____

2. How big is a boulder?

_____

_____

3. Why are rocks in a river often smooth?

_____

_____

4. What are some colors rocks can be?

_____

_____

5. What are some other things you might see on a rock?

_____

_____

Words to know

boulder: a very big rock
pebble: a small, round stone
smooth: flat and even, with no bumps
sort: to put things into groups

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Rocks Big and Small

Square group

Rocks are found nearly everywhere around us. Some of them are enormous, and some are tiny. One good way to learn about rocks is to sort them by how they look and feel.

Begin with the size. A boulder can be as big as a car, while a pebble is small enough to rest in the palm of your hand.

Next, feel the surface. Some rocks are very smooth. Rocks in a river often feel that way because moving water rubs against them for a long time. Other rocks are rough and bumpy.

Then look at the color. Rocks may be gray, white, black, red, or brown. A few have stripes or sparkly spots.

Sorting rocks is a fun and careful way to learn.

Questions

1. What are two ways you can sort rocks?

_____

_____

2. How big can a boulder be?

_____

_____

3. Why do rocks in a river often feel smooth?

_____

_____

4. What colors might a rock be?

_____

_____

5. What do a few rocks have on them?

_____

_____

Words to know

boulder: a very big rock
pebble: a small, round stone
smooth: flat and even, with no bumps
sort: to put things into groups

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

For the teacher: Rocks Big and Small

Each student sheet carries a shape, not a level. The same topic and facts, written three ways.

Circle: Rocks Big and Small

Easier · 85 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade -0.3

1. By size and by how they feel or what color they are.
2. As big as a car.
3. Water rubs them for a long time.
4. Gray, white, black, red, or brown.
5. Stripes or sparkly spots.

Triangle: Rocks Big and Small

This passage · 97 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.5

1. By size and by how they feel or what color they are.
2. A boulder is as big as a car.
3. Water rubs them for a long time.
4. Gray, white, black, red, or brown.
5. Stripes or sparkly spots.

Square: Rocks Big and Small

Harder · 124 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.7

1. By their size, by how they feel, or by their color.
2. As big as a car.
3. Moving water rubs against them for a long time.
4. Gray, white, black, red, or brown.
5. Stripes or sparkly spots.