



ROCK COLLECTING

Explorer level

Purpose

To learn to appreciate and collect rocks, a basic and sometimes beautiful element of God's creation and a symbol of the strength and might of our Lord and Creator.

Exploring

The Bible uses rock as a symbol of strength and power. The Psalms often refer to God as our rock, our stronghold. Rocks were used to build strong foundations or as precious adornments or beautiful decorations for God's temple in the Old Testament.

As well as helping us appreciate God and the Bible more, rock collecting can introduce us to interesting hobbies in related areas like making jewelry, rock polishing, and photographing unusual geological formations.

One of the best ways to collect rocks is to go to a gravel pit, to a recent excavation, to outcrops of rocks along highways, to a creek bed, or the shore of a lake or the sea. It is handy to take with you a little pick or a good quality hammer with which to crack open or chip off weathered specimens to reveal their true features.

Learn the following basic types of rock:

Igneous Produced by volcanic action.

Sedimentary Water-borne or wind-borne matter that settles and becomes rock.

Metamorphic Rock that has changed through natural causes.

Many museums have good rock and mineral collections and good collections of fossils. In your public library, you will find books and magazines about rocks and minerals. From them you will learn where to find the rock and mineral you are interested in.

1. List five ways in which rocks and minerals are used today.

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2. Write in your own words how rocks and minerals were used in the Bible according to the following passages.

- a. 2 Chronicles 4: 1-2 and 7
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- b. 1 Samuel 17: 49
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- c. Acts 7: 39
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- d. Exodus 28: 17
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- e. Exodus 34: 1
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- f. Revelations 21
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- g. 2 Chronicles 3: 6
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- h. Esther 1: 6
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Doing

1. Make a **rock collection** of at least six different rocks in your area. Label each one by its common name. Try to include all the types of rocks listed in the learning section. Describe the colour of the rock, where you found it and how it can be used.
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2. Make a paperweight or some other decorative item from a rock. Polish it or paint it with lacquer to highlight the colour of the rock.
3. Choose one of the following projects.
 - a. Visit a museum where rocks and minerals are displayed.
 - b. Take a field trip to find new rocks and minerals. Add at least six to you collection from at least two of the basic groups.
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Ask your Counsellor to sign below and arrange for the presentation of your badge.

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