

ROCKS

ART

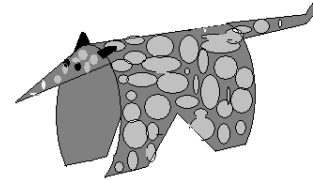
PET ROCKS



Collect small, smooth stones. Wash and let dry. If desired, use silicone glue to stick ears on some rocks. (Make sure to do this in advance and in a well-ventilated area.) Let children paint them with colorful designs and add glue-on eyes. Make beds for the "pets" and teach them tricks. (They are very good at "stay", "lie down" and "play dead." They are not too good at "fetch" or "shake hands")

PEBBLY ARMADILLO ARMBAND

1. Cut a piece of cardboard tube lengthwise. For the body, cut off a 1 1/2 inch long section
2. To form legs, cut out a triangle from each end (where the circle was joined)
3. From the scrap cardboard, cut out a tail and head with ears. Glue them onto the body. Turn up the ears. Paint the armadillo grey.
4. Collect pebbles. Use tacky craft glue to attach pebbles to the armadillo. Set it around another tube while it dries.



GLITTER ROCKS



Material: newspaper, smooth, egg-shaped rocks, some light-colored & some dark-colored, scrub brush, dishwashing soap, foil pie tin, water, clear nail polish

1. Cover your work area with newspaper.
2. Scrub the rocks with soap and water. Rinse them well and let them dry completely.
3. Fill the pie tin with water about 3/4" deep.
4. Let just one drop of nail polish fall into the water. The drop will spread out over the surface of the water, making a cellophane-like film.
5. Holding the side of the rock with your fingertips, roll it slowly across the bottom of the pie tin.
6. Put the rock on the newspaper. Don't touch it for several hours, until it's completely dry.
7. To add sparkle to another rock, skim leftover nail polish from the water with a paper towel, then repeat the process.

LADYBUG ROCKS

Collect smooth pebbles. Use acrylic paint to make ladybugs
Glue on wiggle eyes and pipe-cleaner legs

CARVING ROCKS

Mix together 1 - 2 cups of powdered vermiculite (available at nursery) 1 Cup Plaster of paris, and 1 cup of water. Allow to set. Carve with blunt knives and spoons.

FUNNY BUGS

Use small colorful rocks. Glue on wiggle eyes. Feet can be made from paper, pipe cleaners, or you can purchase jewelry findings from a hobby store.

GAMES

DROP THE PEBBLE

Played like drop the handkerchief. Children sit in circle with hands cupped behind them. One child walks around circle with small rock or pebble. He drops the pebble into the hands of another child. That child tries to catch the first before he gets around the circle and back into the spot vacated. If the child is caught, he sits in the middle for a round. If he is not caught, he sits in the circle and the second child gets a turn.

INDIAN PEBBLE GAME

Things you need:

| | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 15 smooth pebbles | Nail polish |
| scissors | construction paper |
| coffee can | markers |
| tape | |

1. Wash and dry pebbles
2. Paint an X on five of the pebbles with nail polish.
3. Paint an O on five of the pebbles with nail polish.
4. Paint a Z on five of the pebbles with nail polish.
5. Let nail polish dry.
6. Cover can with construction paper and decorate.
7. Place pebbles in can.
8. To play game, each player puts hand in can and pulls out a pebble. When all the pebbles are picked from the can, the one who has the most of one kind of letter wins the round.

STONE!

Mark a starting and finishing line. All players line up at the starting line except the stone who crouches between the starting and finishing lines. When leader says, "Go" players tiptoe towards finish line. When the leader yells, "The stone is alive!" all players try to run to finish line while the stone chases them. Whoever is caught turns to stone and joins the chase.

SONGS

SKIPPING ROCKS (to tune of "Picking Up Pawpaws")

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Pick up a rock and skip it on the water.
Pick up a rock and skip it on the water.
Pick up a rock and skip it on the water.
Skip, skip, skip, skip, SPLASH!

OTHER FUN STUFF

STEPPING STONES

Make rocks or stepping stones out of large pieces of cardboard or carpet squares. Have the children pretend that most of the floor is a river too wide to jump across. Have them leap from one rock to another to get across the river without falling in the water. (Caution: Secure the "stones" with non-stick tape to prevent slipping.)

TREASURE ROCKS

Material:

- 1 C. used coffee grounds
- 1/4 C. sand
- 1/2 C. salt
- 1 C. flour or more
- 1 C. water

Small treasures such as marbles, small toys, etc.

Mix well. Wrap your toys in foil or plastic wrap to keep them dry and clean inside your "rock". Then take what you've mixed and mold it around the wrapped toy, making them look like regular rocks. Dry in sun or a warm indoor window for a few days. Turn regularly so they dry evenly. Hide rocks around room. Have a rock hunt. When the child finds a rock, carefully crack it open to find his hidden "treasure".

SOFT ROCKS

Use various soft rocks (such as talc) to write on the sidewalk.

ROCK SORTING

Cut 4 to 5 holes ranging from large to small in a box top. Let the children sort rocks of different sizes and drop them into the box.

ROCK FAMILIES

Collect smooth rocks of varying sizes and colors to make a rock family. Encourage the children to use their imaginations. You may want to add eyes or decorate the rocks. Encourage children to tell about each person the rocks represent.

MINI TERRARIUMS

Materials: small rocks and stones
Baby food jars
Small silk flowers
Glue

Gather small rocks and stones. Glue rocks and a couple of flowers on the inside of the jar cover. Close the jar (upside down) and you have a mini terrarium. Be creative and add a ribbon to the seam of the jar and cover or pain on the outside of the jar.

ROCK CANDY

Fill a jar with boiling water. Add sugar to water a few spoonfuls at a time, stirring constantly until no more sugar can be mixed into water. Tie a clean string (long enough to touch bottom of jar) to the middle of a craft stick. Wet the string, and lay the craft stick over the jar so the string hangs in the water. Put in a sunny spot and let sit for a few days. Rock candy will form around string.

CRYSTAL SCULPTURES

1. Cut pipe cleaners in half and twist together to form animals or shapes.
2. Mix 2 cup HOT water and 8 oz. Epsom salts until salts are dissolved.
3. Add 4-5 drops food coloring. Mix
4. Pour mixture into wide-mouth glass jar and let cool.
5. Put jar on sunny window sill or in a warm place.
6. Tie a string to your sculpture. Tie other end of string to pencil and balance pencil across the mouth of the jar so the sculpture hangs in the solution.
7. Leave 2-3 days while crystals form around sculpture. DO NOT EAT!!!

ROCK HUNT

Take a walk around the playground or yard. Collect rocks of different sizes and colors. These rocks can be used for sorting and counting activities.

CRYSTAL GARDEN

6 Tbs. Laundry Bluing 6 Tbs. Water
6 Tbs. salt 1 Tbs. Ammonia
1 deep bowl food coloring
1 Charcoal briquette or piece of Building brick

Mix water, bluing, and salt in a glass. Add the ammonia. Break the briquette or brick and put 4 to 5 pieces the size of small match-boxes in the middle of the bowl. Pour the mixture in the glass over the scraps. Crystals will soon begin to grow from the pieces of briquette. Within an hour, the crystals will grow to an inch or more in height. As they begin to sprout, sprinkle different colored drops of food coloring over the briquette. The result will be a mixture of colored, coral-like crystal towers. These towers are fragile and the least bit of bumping or shaking will bring them crashing down. Handle with care if you move it!

POTPOURRI ROCKS

(requires lots of adult help as water needs to be very hot)

These handmade rocks can be added to potpourri to increase the scent and longevity of the scent. They can also be used alone, placed in a pretty bowl or placed in a seashell to fragrance the bathroom!

1 cup salt
1 cup flour
1/2 to 3/4 teaspoon essential oil or fragrance oil
Food coloring, if desired, or herbs, lavender, flowers or rose petals
1 to 1 1/3 cups very hot water

In a bowl, mix ingredients into a stiff dough and then shape into flat stones. Let air dry until hard before using

SNACK

STONE SOUP

Read or tell the story of Stone Soup. (If you are unfamiliar with the story check it out at the library.) You may want to send home note with child explaining when you will be doing this activity and what stone soup is and have each bring a specific ingredient.

EARTH BALLS

This one is good to show the layers of the earth!

1/4 c powdered milk 2 c creamy peanut butter
1/4 c honey 2 c strawberry or other red jam
2 c chocolate chips 2 c sesame seeds or graham cracker crumbs

mix peanut butter and powdered milk. add 1 tsp of honey to make stiff dough. (may need to add more)

Scoop up small round spoonful of dough and roll into ball

Put ball on piece of waxed paper and cut in half.

Use tip of spoon to scoop out small hole in center of ball.

Use spoon handle tip to put small amount of jam into holes. place single chocolate chip in middle of jam in one of the halves. (this is the inner core and the molten outer core)

Put two halves back together (this is magma)

Pour out about 2 c sesame seeds or graham cracker crumbs onto another piece of waxed paper. Roll the ball around to coat. (This is the crust)

FINGERPLAYS

STEPPING STONES

Stepping over stepping stones (walk in place)

1, 2, 3 (clap 3 times)

Stepping over stepping stones, Come with me (beckon)

The river's very fast (roll hands), The river's very wide (arms out)

We'll step across on stepping stones (walk)

And reach the other side (jump)

SKIPPING ROCK

(© 1998 Marie Noe, Reprinted by Permission)

I found a little rock,

Lying on the ground

The little rock was flat and

The little rock was round

I took it to the ocean

And gave my arm a flip,

Away went my rock

With a skip, skip, skip!

ROCK BOOKS

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------|---|
| J 398.2 GOB | Goble | Iktomi And The Boulder |
| J 398.245 KIM | Kimmel | Anansi And The Moss-Covered Rock |
| J 398.2 KIM | Kimmel | Greatest Of All |
| J 398.2 STR | Strangis | Grandfather's Rock |
| J 398.2 VAN | Van Rynbach | Soup Stone |
| J 398.2 YAC | Yacowitz | Jade Stone |
| J 398.21 FOR | Forest | Stone Soup |
| J 398.21 STE | Stewig | Stone Soup |
| J 511.3 MUR | Murphy | Dave's Down-To-Earth Rock Shop |
| J 552 | | This section contains informational books on rocks and minerals |
| E BATTUT | Battut | Fox And The Hen |
| E BAYLOR | Baylor | Everybody Needs A Rock |
| E BONNING | Bonning | Fox Tale Soup |
| E BREAKSPEARE | Breakspeare | Stardragon |
| E BROWN | Brown | Stone Soup |
| E BRUCHAC | Bruchac | Raccoon's Last Race |
| E BUNTING | Bunting | Night Of The Gargoyles |
| E CAMPBELL | Campbell | Gargoyles' Christmas |
| E CHRISTIAN | Christian | If You Find A Rock |
| E CHORAO | Chorao | Cathedral Mouse |
| E CHORAO | Chorao | Ed And Kip |
| E COLE | Cole | Magic School Bus : Inside The Earth |
| E COMPESTINE | Compestine | Real Story Of Stone Soup |
| E FERRY | Ferry | Stick And Stone |
| E FOX | Fox | Hunwick's Egg |
| E HURST | Hurst | Rocks In His Head |
| E LIONNI | Lionni | On My Beach There Are Many Pebbles |
| E MACGILLCALLAHAN | MacGill Callahan | And Still The Turtle Watched |
| E MCGOVERN | McGovern | Stone Soup |
| E MCGURK | McGurk | If Rocks Could Talk – A Discovered Alphabet |
| E MCLERRAN | McLerran | Roxaboxen |
| E MILORD | Milord | Pebble – A Story About Belonging |
| E MIYARES | Miyares | Bring Me A Rock! |
| E PILKEY | Pilkey | God Bless The Gargoyles |
| E POLACCO | Polacco | My Ol' Man |
| E ROSEN | Rosen | Totally Wonderful Miss Plumberry |
| E RUZZIER | Ruzzier | Room Of Wonders |
| E SALAS | Salas | Rock Can Be... |
| E SCHAEFER | Schaefer | Island Grows |

| | | |
|---------------|--------------|--|
| E SEEGER | Seeger | Some Friends To Feed |
| E STEIG | Steig | Sylvester And The Magic Pebble |
| E STUVEBODEEN | Stuve-Bodeen | Elizabeth's Doll |
| E THOMSON | Thomson | Fossil |
| E VANALLSBURG | Van Allsburg | Wretched Stone |
| E WEBB | Webb | Same Sun Was In The Sky |
| E WEINBERG | Weinberg | Rex Finds An Egg! Egg! Egg! |
| E WORMELL | Wormell | Big Ugly Monster And The Little Stone Rabbit |

DVDs

| | |
|--------------|---|
| J 552 EYE | Eyewitness Rock & Mineral |
| J 791.43 BOB | Bob Saves The Day (Roley's Rock Garden) |
| J 791.43 SCH | Scholastic Story Time DVD Collection (Sylvester & The Magic Pebble) |
| J 791.43 SHO | Shorts |
| J 791.43 STR | Strega Nona (Stone Soup) |
| J 791.43 WIL | William Steig Library (Sylvester & The Magic Pebble) |

This list was updated on October 26, 2017