

LESSON: You Rock!**GRADE: 3****OBJECTIVES:****Writing****Text Types & Purposes-**

- **W.3.1** Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

Research to Build & Present Knowledge-

- **W.3.7** Conduct short research projects that build knowledge about a topic.

MATERIALS & RESOURCES:

- The book *Magic School Bus: Inside the Earth*
- Access to PBS video links:
 - [PBS.org, Real Scientists, Mineralogist](http://www.pbs.org/teachers/connect/resources/684/preview/)
 - [PBS.org, Ancient Tools of Iowa-](http://www.pbs.org/teachers/connect/resources/5045/preview/)
- Rocks
- Access to a student library or Internet sites about rocks

PRESENTATION:

The Earth is made of many layers of rocks. If you look closely, though, you will see that all rocks are not the same! Why are they different and how are they the same? Explore the wonderful world of rocks and create an earth science dictionary of rocks.

DIRECTIONS:

1. Read *The Magic School Bus: Inside the Earth*.
2. Carefully discuss the types of rocks and how they were formed.
3. Watch the videos about the scientist and rocks in Iowa.
4. Ask, "How do people use rocks?"
5. Look at the rocks in the classroom and separate the rocks by category.
6. Go to the library or access the Internet for rock facts and descriptions.
7. Assign each student to a rock. Ask students to write a description of the rock and what that type of rock is used for and where it came from.
8. When each student has finished writing the description, create a rock dictionary for the classroom. Make a copy for each student if desired.

TIME:

90 minutes

PROCESSING THROUGH THE SIX PILLARS:

WHAT HAPPENED?

- What did you learn about rocks?
- How are rocks similar? How are they different?

SO WHAT?

- How can you apply the Pillar of Respect to this lesson?

NOW WHAT?

- How can you share your Rock Dictionary with others to let them know about rocks?