

Golly Geology! Wild Wednesday Activities mrhi.org

1) Glacier Model – Place some sand and small gravel in an ice cube tray or small container. Add water and freeze overnight. Take out and place your ‘glacier’ on a tilted piece of cardboard spread over a cookie sheet. Observe what happens as your ‘glacier’ melts. Be patient!



2) Sedimentary Rock Formation Models –

Get a clear jar with a lid (plastic jar works well). Use scoops of sand, gravel, road or ditch soil, and clean cat litter (if available). Leave room at the top of the jar for some water. Seal the jar with the lid and slowly rock the jar back and forth. Set the jar in a flat place, take off the lid and let the water evaporate off. What's left is a model of how sedimentary rock forms over time in different layers. Sandstone, limestone, and shale are examples of sedimentary rock. Builders used red sandstone rock from South Park to build the old courthouse in Fairplay. You can also use clay or Playdough to model sedimentary rock layers. Bend or fold the layers to see how some mountains may have formed from pressure below the earth's surface.



*For a prettier model, create colorful layers of

sediments using table salt and food coloring. Get parent help. To create the colors, mix well 2 drops of food color into 1 tablespoon of salt in separate dry glasses. Find a small, clean and dry (like a spice jar) to create your model. Use a very small



spoon to scoop out a color of salt and to place (not sprinkle) the salt down into the jar. Go slow. Layer only one color in the jar at a time and wipe off the spoon after each use. Keys to success: keep all the materials dry, don't shake the jar, and don't overfill. Tightly seal the jar with the lid.

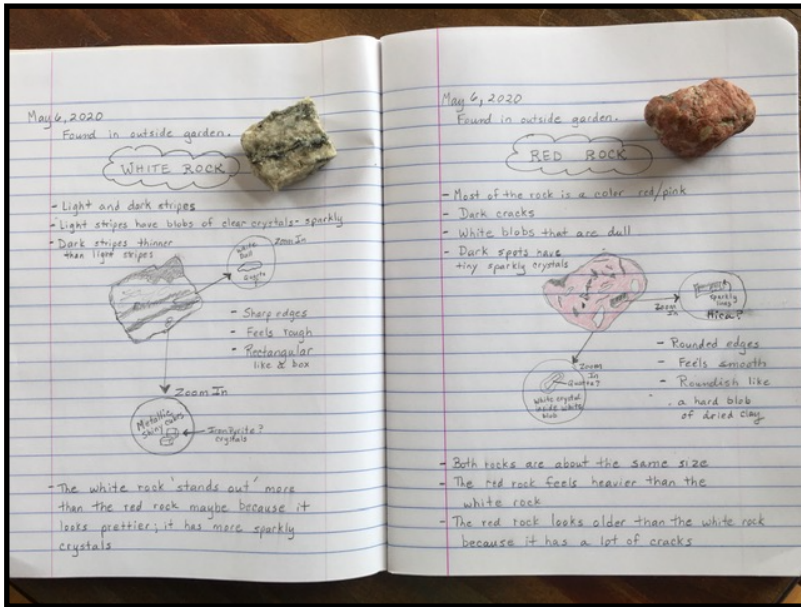
3) Create a Nature Journal and start by comparing two rocks from your collection. It's easy!

Included here is a link to a resource from the Lawrence Hall of Science and the BEETLES project.

(BEETLES - Better Environmental Education, Teaching, Learning & Expertise Sharing)

https://drive.google.com/file/d/12qjs6lvJw_Jv5nmFHBH6-Y0tgLO-nszr/view (You will need a Google account to open this)

Use your Nature Journal for other observations this spring and summer!



5) Full Moon on May 7th! Can you find where astronauts landed on the Moon? (Moon map courtesy of Wood Howard Products, Inc. and FastMark, Pala Alto, CA)

