

Weathering Rocks
Lesson Plan

Standards: Science Grade 2

Investigation and Experimentation

4. Scientific progress is made by asking meaningful questions and conducting careful investigations. As a basis for understanding this concept and addressing the content in the other three strands, students should develop their own questions and perform investigations. Students will:
- D. Write or draw descriptions of a sequence of steps, events, and observations.

Objective:

The learner will demonstrate their ability to record the effects of weathering by drawing pictures of rocks that have been exposed to frost wedging.

Materials:

- Pictures of weathered rock
- Small butter dishes
- Rocks of all sizes and shapes

*Caution - be sure to use plastic containers versus glass.

Procedures:

- This activity will occur over several days. Have the class break into their groups. Have the materials person collect all materials for the activity. Each group needs a small plastic butter dish with a lid. Three or four rocks of various shape and size.
- Each group will also need a piece of white construction paper folded into fourths for each person in their group, the boxes will be labeled day one, day two, day three and day four. Put example on the board for all students to see.
- On day one the students will draw and color pictures of their rocks and write one sentence describing them. Emphasize to the students to get as close as possible to the original shape. When they are done have them place the rocks in the bowl, fill the bowl up with water so that the rocks are covered, put the lid on and place in the freezer over night.
- Have the class make a prediction as to what might happen to the rocks.
- Remove bowls from freezer in the morning.
- Day two have the groups drain the water from the bowls and draw and color the rocks that are now remaining and write one sentence about what happened to the rocks.
- Discuss what happened to the rocks and why it happened.

- Continue this activity for two more days. Remember to discuss what happened to the rocks each day.

Assessment:

As an informal assessment discuss how weathering takes place and what effect it might have on the rocks. As a formal assessment have the students write four sentences on how weathering takes place and draw a picture. Remind them to use complete sentences and correct punctuation. If they are struggling have them think back to the exercise that we have been doing this week.

Closure:

Show the class pictures of places they may have visited where weathered rocks are visible.