



THEME Earth and Space Science

VOCABULARY WORDS These words increase and improve children’s vocabulary and understanding of the text and world around them.

rock	solid mass made of minerals
leaves	flat parts of a plant or tree that grows from the stem
smooth	not rough
rough	having an uneven surface; not smooth
heavy	having much weight or hard to lift
light	not heavy or not having much weight

Book Suggestions and YouTube Recommendations:

- *Learning about Rocks*, by Natalie Rosinsky
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eueBgizqz6w>
- *Rocks, Hard, Smooth and Rough*, by Natalie Rosinsky
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LhBGIUuGe2Q>
- *Stone Soup*, by Ann McGovern <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S1hGNQGjQ4c>

Ideas for At Home Activities:

Pretend & Learn	Pretend to be a weather reporter by giving a report of the weather. Pretend to be a an archaeologist (this website has some fun ideas: https://www.thenaturalhomeschool.com/what-does-an-archaeologist-do.html)
ABC	Alphabet Soup—Place magnetic letters into a big stock pot. Give your child a wooden spoon and ask your child to stir the alphabet soup. Then, call out a letter for your child to find in the “alphabet soup.” You can give your child plastic tongs to retrieve the letter. Discuss the letter sound. You can also have your child pull out any letter of their choosing and ask them to identify the letter. You can also ask them to tell you the sound that letter makes, or you make the sound for them.

Writing	Materials needed are paper plates, dirt, sand, or flour. Pour dirt, sand, or flour on a paper plate. Pour enough to cover the bottom of the plate. You and your child can write letters in the dirt, sand, or flour. He/she can also write the letters in his/her name. Name the letters written. Shake the plate lightly to erase and start over.
Math	Ask your child to sort rocks, leaves, shells, and/or twigs from items gathered outside. Help as needed.
Art	Make a Weather Spinner—Help your child brainstorm a list about different types of weather using descriptive words like rainy, sunny, snowy, windy, cloudy, etc. Cut a square piece of tag board or poster board to use as the base of the weather spinner. Then, cut out an arrow shape to use as the spinning tool. Help your child divide the square into sections. The sections do not need to be exactly equal sizes, but they should all radiate from the center of the square. Help your child fill each section with the name and picture of each specific type of weather from the list. Carefully puncture a hole through the center of the tag board arrow as well as the center of the spinner's base and fold the edges of the metal brad down to attach it. Make sure to attach it loosely enough so that you can still spin the spinner with ease. Hang the weather spinner by the door or a window in your entryway so that your child can easily check on the weather and adjust the spinner.
Sensory/Building	Give your child a bag and take him/her outside on a hunt for objects. Pick a location where rocks or other items are found. You may also scatter rocks or objects ahead of time. After your child finds items/objects. Discuss and talk about the items/objects that were found. Let your child show and tell you about the things that were found and which item/object he/she likes the best.
Social-Emotional Activity	Discuss with your child what it might be like to be an archaeologist. Discuss how it might feel to discover new things by digging in the dirt.

*The links contained on this resource are websites that contain materials and tools that may be used to provide additional resources to parents or students. This information is only intended to be a general summary of information provided to the public. The Mississippi Department of Education does not endorse or promote any commercial products or services. The views and opinion of authors expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the MDE, and they may not be used for advertising or product endorsement purposes. Please make sure that you choose the tool(s), resource(s) or material(s) that are developmentally appropriate and best fit the needs of your students, school, or district.