



Year Group: Year 3-4

Length: 23 mins

Starting Positions: Lie in your own space on the floor

Learning Intentions:

To know about...

- Different types of rock (sedimentary, igneous, metamorphic) and how they are formed
- Different kinds of rock (chalk, granite, slate, marble) and their simple physical properties

Synopsis:

- You wake up in the small, leaky hut where you live with your sickly father on a faraway planet.
- You hear a shout and move to the window: the Fire Breathers, strange aliens with giant legs, have arrived. They burn down the Emperor's wooden palace. You help put the fire out.
- The Emperor announces that he has found a solution to the problem of the Firebreathers burning down his palace. There is a planet called Earth that has a material called 'rock' which can't be burned.
- The Emperor chooses you to go on the mission, and says if you don't he'll throw you out of your home.
- Your mission is to find long-lasting and waterproof rock samples.
- You're given a teleportation device, called Zlot. It transports you to Earth but millions of years in the past. You are in the sea and as you move forward in time you see sediment forming on the sea floor.
- Eventually you arrive in the present day and are standing in front of a chalk cliff. The Fire Breathers appear and chase you up the cliff. The chalk crumbles under your hands – so chalk is not suitable.
- Zlot takes you to the slopes of a volcano where you pick up some igneous rock. The volcano erupts and a woman, Sarah, shouts at you to get away.
- Sarah and you drive down the slopes, chased by the Firebreathers. Sarah takes you to the quarry where she works, and you pocket a piece of granite as one of your rock samples.
- Zlot takes you to a slate mine, where you learn about metamorphic rock. The Fire Breathers take Sarah hostage. They demand you hand over your rock samples.
- You realise the mine is covered in dynamite and tell the Firebreathers you all need get out.
- You have saved the Firebreathers' lives. In return they announce they want peace with your people.
- You return home with your rock samples and hand them over to the Emperor who is pleased. You ask him to build you and your father a new home, made of rock. He agrees.

Characters

- **Dad**
- **The Emperor** – our grand and imperious leader
- **Zlot** – our personal computer
- **Sarah** – quarry worker

- **Frikka** – leader of the Fire Breathers

Locations:

- **Our planet** – a place with no rocks
- **Sea**
- **Volcano**
- **Quarry**
- **Slate mine**

Glossary:

- **Sandpaper** – paper with sand stuck to it, used for smoothing surfaces
- **Sediment** – matter that settles at the bottom of a liquid
- **Sedimentary rock** – rocks that are formed by sediment deposited over time, usually as layers at the bottom of lakes and oceans
- **Erode** – to rub, or be rubbed away gradually
- **Igneous** – rock formed when magma cools and solidifies
- **Quarry** – a large deep pit from which stone or other materials have been extracted
- **Metamorphic** – rock that has been changed over time by extreme pressure and heat

Discussion:

Story & Factual

- Why did the Emperor want us to go on a mission to planet Earth? What were we sent to collect?
- When you were in the sea you watched sedimentary rock forming. Can you describe how it happened?
- What happened when you tried to climb the chalk cliff?
- How did you test the bits of rock that you found? What qualities were you looking for?
- What other suitable rock samples do you find? Why did the Firebreathers want your rock samples?
- Why did the Firebreathers decide to make peace with you?
- Why was the Emperor pleased, and what does he agree to do for you and your father?

PSHE & Philosophical

- How did you feel when you were chosen to go on the mission to planet Earth?
- Who helped you on your mission? Who tried to get in your way?
- Why do different people fight and wage war on one another? Is war always as simple as good vs. bad?
- Why do you think the Firebreathers are so angry? Have you ever felt angry?
- If you had Zlot, what time in history/the future would you visit, and why? What would you do there? Who would you meet? What sorts of food would you eat? How long would you stay there for?

Resources:

You'll find these follow up resources on your shared drive:

- **Literacy Resources** – 5 creative writing ideas
- **Photo Storyboard** – order the images from the story (or use them for other things – e.g. writing)
- **Quick Quiz** – re-cap key facts
- **Or try some recount, report or creative writing ideas of your own!**