

Rocks Writing Tasks

Rock Rap

Write a Rap to share what you have found out about different types of rocks. Think about how they have been formed over time and describe some of their properties. Mind map the facts you want to include first. Working with a partner will help you keep the beat and bounce a few ideas around.

This short video will get you warmed up! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w-5o11xZzwM>

There's a lot to remember when we talk about rocks
All those names for bits of blocks!
Rock rap with a bit of rhyme
Showing how rocks formed since the start of time

Rock rap where shall we start?
At the beginning I hear you harp
Well millions of years it took to make
The sedimentary rocks at the bottom of the lake

Rock rap how were they formed?
Tiny creatures, plants and rocks
Eroded into bits and packed right down
Layers hardened, new ones formed.....

You might include:

- repetition of lines or words
- question and answer format: eg Rock rap where shall we start?

Remember:

- keep a steady beat: e.g. 4 beats to a bar
- rhythm and rhyme will help your rap flow

Time to Build!

After your successful mission to Planet Earth you have been put in charge of building projects on your planet. You have been asked to teach the other builders about the different types of rocks to use for the different parts of each building: e.g. floor, roof and flooring. You know which rocks would make the strongest building materials and why. The problem is the builders are finding it all very confusing.

Create a chart to share your knowledge. Remember to explain the differences between sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic rocks and which ones would be best for the different parts of the building. Present your findings to the builders (rest of the class). Be prepared to answer any questions!

You might include:

- different columns listing: rock names; how they were formed; lists of properties; how they could best be used
- questions to check how well the builders have been listening!

Remember:

- keep language clear
- label pictures and diagrams

What a Day!

***Narrator:** Oh no! You've arrived on Planet Earth but in the past!*

***Zlot:** Standby to time travel to the present day....*

***Narrator:** Something's happening... As you travel forwards in time, you're watching countless tiny little sea creatures dying and turning into skeletons. The skeletons are turning to dust and falling to the sea floor. Put your hand out to catch some as it falls.*

What a day you've had! Travelling through space and time and learning so many new facts about all those different types of rocks. Write a **recount** of your adventure. What were the most exciting or scary moments? Was it swimming through time and seeing the formation of the sedimentary rocks under the sea? Or the close escape from the erupting lava in Sarah's truck with the Fire-Breathers hot on your heels? Choose one of the most memorable moments to describe.

You might include:

- the impact on your senses: what could you see/hear/feel/smell?

Remember:

- time connectives and the past tense
- describe how you felt as well as what you did

Thank you, Sarah

Narrator: *What's lava? [volcano eruption] Woah – the ground is shaking beneath your feet. And what was that noise? Look up – red stuff is erupting from the top of the mountain and coming down the sides.*

Zlot: *That is lava.....*

Sarah: *My name's Sarah. You're lucky I happened to be driving past – that lava would have killed you if it caught up with you.*

If it hadn't been for Sarah you probably wouldn't have survived your mission to Earth. She rescued you from the lava erupting from the Volcano. Thanks to her quick thinking, you were able to race away from the Fire-Breathers in her truck. It was Sarah who led you to the granite quarry where you picked up your first rock sample.

Write a **thank you letter**, expressing just how grateful you are. Tell her what has happened since your return to your planet and the truce that has been agreed between your Emperor and the Fire-Breathers.

You might include:

- details of how your house building has gone

Remember:

- start the letter: 'Dear Sarah,' and end in a friendly way: 'love from....'

Home Design

Emperor: *Once the palace is built..... You and your father will be welcome to come and live there.*

Narrator: *Thank the Emperor but hold your hand to ask if you may have some of the granite, slate and marble so you can build a strong, long-lasting and waterproof home of your very own.*

Emperor: *Your wish is my desire!*

You were delighted to be granted permission to design and build a home for yourself and your father. **Create a design** showing the home you plan to build. What rooms will you include? What rocks will you use for each part of the structure?

You might include:

- views from different angles, including a bird's eye view from above
- notes to explain the different properties of the rocks you have chose

Remember:

- choose rocks whose properties are suitable for the purpose: e.g. waterproof rocks for the roof
- label your drawings clearly