

## Backyard Geology-Explore Outdoors

Geology is the study of the Earth and other planets: What are the rocks made of? How were they formed? And how have they changed over time? Earth's powerful processes are still active today and continue to change the land. Geologists are scientists that study things like volcanoes and earthquakes to help keep people safe, and they look for resources like copper and iron for humans to use.

Go outside and explore for rocks or pebbles beneath your feet. Where did the rocks come from? What is their rock cycle story? Collect different rocks, stones and pebbles from a few different places that you explore. If your rock is dirty, rinse it off. Write and draw your observations below. Describe the colors. Does it feel rough or smooth? Does it sparkle or is it dull? Is it heavy or light? Do you notice any patterns? What shapes do you see? How else would you describe it?



Continue being a Geologist and start a rock collection. Using an empty egg crate as a container, place a rock in each section. Then use a magnifying lens to observe the rocks more closely. Borrow a rocks and minerals field guide from a library to help identify your rocks. Ask a Geologist about your rocks! For more activities go here <https://earlylearningideas.com/activities-with-rocks/>