

4<sup>th</sup> Grade 4<sup>th</sup> Day  
Science Literacy Connection 2

## Properties of Rocks

**Standard 3:** Students will understand the basic properties of rocks, the processes involved in the formation of soils, and the needs to plants provided by soil.

**Objective 1:** Identify basic properties and minerals of rocks.

- c. Sort rocks by appearance according to three basic types: sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic (e. g., sedimentary - round-appearing minerals and rock particles that are cemented together, often in layers; igneous – with or without observable crystals that are not in layers or with or without air holes or glasslike; metamorphic – crystals/minerals, often in layers).
- d. Classify common rocks found in Utah as sedimentary (i.e., sandstone, conglomerate, shale), igneous (i.e., basalt, granite, obsidian, pumice) and metamorphic (i.e., marble, gneiss, schist).

ELS Core: W.4.2

## Writing About Rocks

### Description

- Students will use video clips to provide information about rocks. They will write a summary paragraph using informative language.

### Materials

- computer lab or single teacher computer
- projector
- writing materials

### Procedure

1. Tell students they will be writing a paragraph to summarize the information they will see in three video clips on rocks.
2. Show them or have them watch on their own, the three clips:

Igneous [http://www.makemegenius.com/video\\_play.php?id=105&type=0](http://www.makemegenius.com/video_play.php?id=105&type=0)

Sedimentary [http://www.makemegenius.com/video\\_play.php?id=106&type=0](http://www.makemegenius.com/video_play.php?id=106&type=0)

Metamorphic: [http://www.makemegenius.com/video\\_play.php?id=107&type=0](http://www.makemegenius.com/video_play.php?id=107&type=0)

3. Students will need to re-play the clips several times and make a list of facts they want to include in their paragraph. Once they have the facts they want they should use writing skills to complete the summary. (Topic sentence, supporting details)

4. To scaffold the activity, provide a topic sentence like: Rocks are interesting and come in three main types.
5. If students have their own computer, they could word process the document, import pictures etc.