



Pre-Visit/Post-Visit Guide

Lesson Name: Carolina Treasures

Summary of Lesson:

What is a mineral? How are minerals used? These and other questions will be answered as students discover there are mineral treasures buried under their feet that have important roles in our everyday lives. Our “mineral detectives” will refine their inquiry skills by determining the physical properties and uses of a set of products mined in South Carolina. They’ll also learn about the formation of crystals, and pan for gemstones.

South Carolina Science Standards: 3.E.4A.1, 3.E.4A.3

Pre-Visit Resources

- **Teacher/Chaperone Expectations:** Please help us by letting us know of any special accommodations for your children prior to the lesson. Your assistance with classroom management and distribution of materials will also be greatly appreciated.
- **Instruction for Teachers:**
 - Please report to the Harrison Hall of Science for this lesson. Students will work in small groups.
- **Key Vocabulary:** minerals, rocks, panning, natural resource, physical properties
- **Key Questions Addressed in Lesson:**
 - What are some physical properties of minerals?
 - How are minerals used in everyday life?
 - How can people apply an understanding of minerals to the “real world”?
 - What are some minerals mined in South Carolina?
 - What is one method of finding valuable minerals?
 - How can people apply an understanding of minerals to the “real world”?
- **Content Preview Video:**
 - SCNaturalResources presents “Geology in South Carolina” (9:41)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U8vWb6nPkQc>

Post-Visit Resources

- **Writing Prompt:** Research the gemstone you brought home from the lesson today! Create a profile page featuring your gemstone. Include its uses and special characteristics!
- **Possible Lesson Link:**
 - Geology Rocks! Unit <http://preschoolpowolpackets.blogspot.com/2016/04/geology-rocks-unit-free-printable-packet.html>
- **Video Link:**
 - “Natural Resources for Kids: Teach your Kids and Students About Earth’s Natural Resources” (9:32)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dsTgyb_ITtk
- **Career Connections:**
 - “What does a Geologist Do?” (1:22) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zm3YMWWh4c>