

**Project FOCUS  
Best Lessons  
KINDERGARTEN**

**Title of Lesson:** Pet Rocks

**Theme:** Earth/Space Science

**Unit Number:** 5      **Unit Title:** Rocks and Soils

**Performance Standard(s) Covered (enter codes):**

SKE2

**Enduring Standards (objectives of activity):**

**Habits of Mind**

- Asks questions
- Uses numbers to quantify
- Works in a group
- Uses tools to measure and view
- Looks at how parts of things are needed
- Describes and compares using physical attributes
- Observes using senses
- Draws and describes observations

**Content (key terms and topics covered):**

Types of rocks, soil

**Learning Activity (Description in Steps)**

**Abstract (limit 100 characters):** This lesson teaches kids about different types of rocks and what soil they are found in.

**Details:** Take kids out in groups of four to five at a time.

Let each kid pick out their pet rock from the rocks you brought.

Put an apron on each kid to prevent paint getting on their clothes.

Let them paint their rocks however they want, but make sure to pay attention to each kid so nothing goes wrong.

Once finished painting, take the kids' rocks and paint their initials on the bottom so you know which kid has which rock when they take them home.

Place all finished rocks on the newspaper, spray with acrylic spray and wait to dry.

While the rocks are drying, bring the kids to the various tubs of soil for them to observe. Give each kid a magnifying glass to use. Ask them various questions about the soil. For example, we had a tub of sand and you could ask them where you find sand outside, expecting the answer of the beach and/or playground.

Once finished with the soil, go back to the pet rocks that are dried and use a hot glue gun to glue on the googly eyes to make it a "pet rock." Give the kid their rocks to take home.

**Materials Needed (Type and Quantity):**

**Rocks for the children to choose from to paint**

**About 6 different paint colors**

**Cups to put the paint in**

**Paintbrushes**

**Acrylic spray**

**Aprons for the kids**

**Googly eyes to put on pet rocks**

**Hot glue gun**

**Newspaper**

**Various types of soil**

**Magnifying glasses**

**Notes and Tips (suggested changes, alternative methods, cautions):**

**Make sure the kids are not throwing the rocks around or at each other and try to keep the mess from paint to a minimum.**

**Sources/References:**

**1)**

**2)**

**3)**