

Rock Clue Hunt

Students sort rock-description words by observable property.

K.10.A "describe and classify rocks by the observable properties of size, shape, color, and texture;"

NAME _____

DATE _____

Teacher: this page is run aloud. The script and answers are on the guide page.

1 CIRCLE CLUES _____

a	blue	rough	large
b	rough	small	red
c	large	blue	smooth

2 MATCH CLUES _____

size	•	•	smooth
shape	•	•	tiny
texture	•	•	round

HOW TO RUN THIS PAGE

Read the words aloud and have students listen for the kind of rock clue each word gives. Students classify clues for color, size, texture, and shape by circling and matching. Before class, supply three clean, dry rocks per child or small group that clearly differ in relative size, shape, color or texture. Use intact pieces too large to put in the mouth, with no sharp edges; supervise handling and wash hands afterward. After the vocabulary tasks, each child must look at and gently feel the actual rocks, orally describe one using size relative to another rock, shape, color and texture, then choose one observed property and sort all three into groups. Ask the child to point to each rock and explain its group; scribe words if needed. The printed words are practice, not substitutes for observing the supplied rocks.

Students never read directions on this sheet. Read each part's script aloud, then each prompt, giving think time before students mark.

PART 1 • CIRCLE CLUES

SAY "Think like a rock scientist. I will read each row. Listen for the kind of clue, then circle one word."

ROW	SAY	STUDENTS CIRCLE
a	Which word tells about a rock's color?	blue
b	Which word tells about a rock's size?	small
c	Which word tells about a rock's texture?	smooth

PART 2 • MATCH CLUES

SAY "Now draw a line from each rock property on the left to the word that tells about that property on the right. I will read the words as you work. After matching, look at our three rocks. Choose one: tell me its size compared with another, its shape, its color and how its surface feels. Now choose one property and put the three rocks into groups using what you observed. Point to each rock and tell me why it belongs there. I will help record your words."

- **size** matches **tiny**
- **shape** matches **round**
- **texture** matches **smooth**

WHAT TO ACCEPT

Circle blue for color, small for size, and smooth for texture. Match size to tiny, shape to round, and texture to smooth. Also observe each child's actual rock description and grouping. Accept ordinary accurate words (larger/smaller, rounded/angular, observed colors, smoother/rougher) and explained groups that match the supplied rocks; no fixed grouping is required. A smooth/rough texture grouping is one possible choice, but size, shape or color may also be used. Adult records oral responses; circling/matching alone is incomplete. Supervise safe handling and handwashing.