

Looking at Rocks

Procedure

1. Record your observations in the chart below.

	Color	Texture	Scratch
A			
B			
C			
D			
E			
F			

- 2. Collaborate** Work with a partner. Choose six rocks from the rock specimen kit. Using paper labels and a marker, label each rock *A*, *B*, *C*, *D*, *E*, or *F*.
- 3. Observe** Use a hand lens to closely observe each rock for the presence of different colored pieces or layers. Record your observations of color in your chart. Run your fingers over each rock to feel its texture. Record your observations.
- 4. Experiment** Test each rock to see if you can scratch it first with a fingernail, then with a penny. Record the results in your chart.

- 5. Classify** Work with another pair of students. Combine your collections of rocks. Group together rocks that are similar. On the lines below, record the traits you used to classify each group.

Conclusion

Write the answers to the questions below.

- 1. Classify** Discuss with your classmates other ways you might classify the rocks.

- 2. Infer** Based on what you have observed, which rocks might make good building material? Explain the reasons for your choices.

Investigate More!

Solve a Problem You see an ad for fake rocks that are hollow so things can be hidden under them. Write your ideas about the features the rocks should have to look real.