

Name That Rock!

Procedure

- 1. Collaborate** All rocks can be grouped into three classes—igneous, metamorphic, and sedimentary. Work in small groups. Use the chart below to record your observations.

Rock Sample	Rock Name	Rock Class
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		

- 2. Observe** Take the first rock sample. Using the hand lens, look closely at the rock to determine whether it is made of small grains.
- 3. Compare** Follow the steps of the Rock Identification Key to classify the rock.
- 4. Record Data** When you have identified the rock, write its name and class in your chart.
- 5. Observe** Repeat steps 2 and 3 for each remaining rock sample.

Conclusion

Write the answers to the questions below.

- 1. Hypothesize** Geologists group rocks into three classes based on how they are formed. Using your results, hypothesize about how the sandstone might have formed.

- 2. Compare** Using your hand lens, look again at the granite, basalt, and sandstone. Note the shape of the grains in each sample. How does the shape of the grains in the igneous rocks differ from the shape of grains in the sedimentary rock?

Investigate More!

Design an Experiment Make a plan to gather rocks in nature and investigate their properties. Be sure to have your teacher approve your plan before you carry it out!