A World in a Grain of Sand

Procedure

1. Observe  Use a hand lens to examine each sand sample. To make viewing easier, place light-colored sand on dark paper, and place dark-colored sand on white paper. Record your observations.

2. Compare  Feel the sand samples with your fingertips. Note how the samples are alike and different. Record your observations.

3. Observe  Place a few grains of one sand sample on a slide. Look at the grains through the microscope. Repeat this process with the other sand samples. Record your observations.

4. Experiment  Put each sand sample in a plastic bag and pass a magnet over it. Are any grains of sand attracted to the magnet? Record what you observe.
Conclusion

1. **Compare** How were the sand samples similar to one another? How were they different?

2. **Analyze Data** Where might the materials making up the sand in your samples have come from? Give reasons for your answers.

3. **Hypothesize** Form a hypothesis to explain how sand forms. How could you test this hypothesis?

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Experiment

How does sand on a beach change from day to day, or month to month? Assume you can visit a beach every day. List the steps you would take to **observe** changes on the beach.