Unit 7: Rocks and Fossils (Earth's Systems)

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Title Section

Department of Curriculum and Instruction

Belleville Public Schools

Curriculum Guide

Science: Grade 4

Unit 7: Rocks and Fossils

Belleville Board of Education

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Unit Overview

Unit seven provides detailed information about Fossils and Rocks. The content within the unit explores the different layers of rocks and how they change. The unit focuses on discovering what can be learned about fossils and ancient environments. Patterns in fossils help to learn about the past.

Enduring Understanding

- Fossils form when ancient living things die and become preserved in rocks.
- Fossils and rocks provide information about the past.
- Fossils can teach us about the kinds of animals that used to roam Earth, what the weather may have been like, and what the environment might have been like.
- The relative age of rocks can be determined where they fall in a sequence.
- Information from fossils and rock layers can explain how an environment has changed over time.
- Processes and forces can change Earth's landscape.

Essential Questions

- **How do rock layers change?**
- **How can the relative age of rocks be determined?**
- **What evidence can be revealed about ancient environments and organisms from fossils?**
- **How can fossils and rock layers indicate an environment has changed over time?**
- **What are some patterns revealed from fossils?**
- **How do processes and forces change Earth's landscape?**

Exit Skills

By the end of Grade 4, Science Unit7, the student should be able to:

- Ask questions and define problems
- Construct explanations and design solutions
- Define and delimit engineering problems
- Develop possible solutions
- Optimize the design solution
- Analyze the influence of science, engineering, and technology on society and the natural world

New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS-S) & NGSS

SEP - Constructing Explanations and Designing Solutions

DCI - The History of Planet Earth

CCC - Patterns

NextGen Science Standards

4-ESS1-1.ESS1.C	The History of Planet Earth
4-ESS1-1.ESS1.C.1	Local, regional, and global patterns of rock formations reveal changes over time due to earth forces, such as earthquakes. The presence and location of certain fossil types indicate the order in which rock layers were formed.
4-ESS2-1.ESS2.A	Earth Materials and Systems
4-ESS2-1.ESS2.A.1	Rainfall helps to shape the land and affects the types of living things found in a region. Water, ice, wind, living organisms, and gravity break rocks, soils, and sediments into smaller particles and move them around.

Interdisciplinary Connections

Do the Math! pp. 463, 493

MA.4.MD.A.1	Know relative sizes of measurement units within one system of units including km, m, cm, mm; kg, g; lb, oz.; l, ml; hr, min, sec. Within a single system of measurement, express measurements in a larger unit in terms of a smaller unit. Record measurement equivalents in a two column table.

Learning Objectives

In Unit 7, students will demonstrate the ability to:

HMH Science Dimensions, Unit 7 - Lesson 1:

- **Construct** explanations for the ways in which rock layers reveal patterns
- **Examine** the history of planet Earth
- **Analyze** rock layers to gather evidence about how they form

HMH Science Dimensions, Unit 7 - Lesson 2:

- **Examine** fossils representing life from different periods in Earth's history
- **Determine** the habitats in which fossils lived, and draw conclusions about what modern-day organisms the fossils may be related to
- **Analyze** the structure of fossils and living organisms to determine how repeated forms and traits helped these organisms survive in specific environments

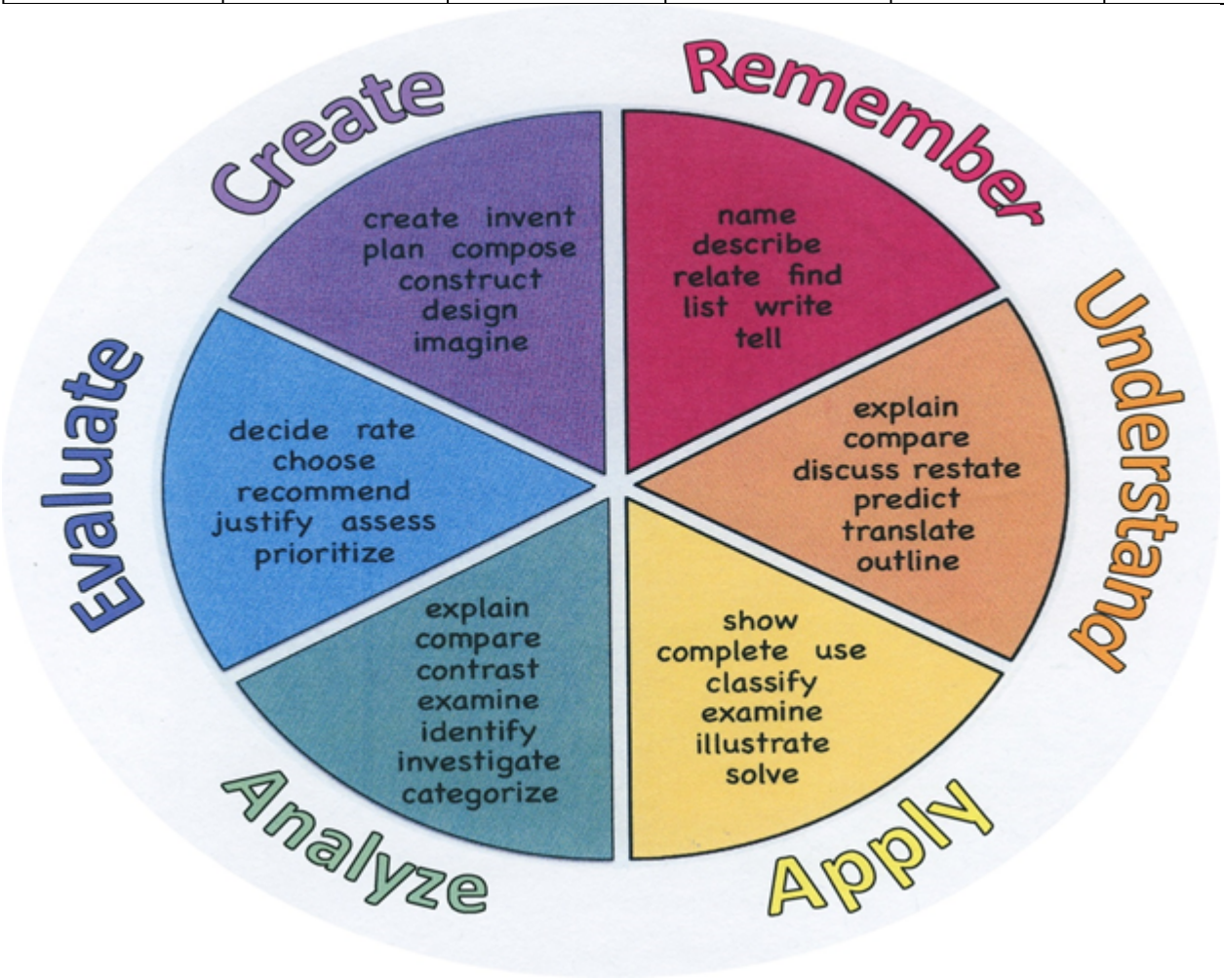
HMH Science Dimensions, Unit 7 - Lesson 3:

- **Determine** what past environments were like
- **Construct** explanations for how environments have changed over time
- **Analyze** patterns in rocks and fossils to determine how changes to Earth's surface have affected and will continue to affect rock layers

Below are examples of action verbs associated with each level of the Revised Bloom's Taxonomy. These are useful in writing learning objectives, assignment objectives and exam questions.

Remember	Understand	Apply	Analyze	Evaluate	Create
Choose	Classify	Choose	Categorize	Appraise	Combine
Describe	Defend	Dramatize	Classify	Judge	Compose
Define	Demonstrate	Explain	Compare	Criticize	Construct
Label	Distinguish	Generalize	Differentiate	Defend	Design
List	Explain	Judge	Distinguish	Compare	Develop
Locate	Express	Organize	Identify	Assess	Formulate
Match	Extend	Paint	Infer	Conclude	Hypothesize
Memorize	Give Examples	Prepare	Point out	Contrast	Invent
Name	Illustrate	Produce	Select	Critique	Make
Omit	Indicate	Select	Subdivide	Determine	Originate
Recite	Interrelate	Show	Survey	Grade	Organize
Select	Interpret	Sketch	Arrange	Justify	Plan
State	Infer	Solve	Breakdown	Measure	Produce
Count	Match	Use	Combine	Rank	Role Play
Draw	Paraphrase	Add	Detect	Rate	Drive
Outline	Represent	Calculate	Diagram	Support	Devise
Point	Restate	Change	Discriminate	Test	Generate
Quote	Rewrite	Classify	Illustrate		Integrate
Recall	Select	Complete	Outline		Prescribe
Recognize	Show	Compute	Point out		Propose
Repeat	Summarize	Discover	Separate		Reconstruct
Reproduce	Tell	Divide			Revise
	Translate	Examine			Rewrite
	Associate	Graph			Transform
	Compute	Interpolate			

	Convert Discuss Estimate Extrapolate Generalize Predict	Manipulate Modify Operate Subtract			



Suggested Activities & Best Practices

HMH Science Dimensions, Unit 7 - Lesson 1:

- **Engage:** "Can You Explain It?" lesson
- **Explore/Explain:** "One Layer at a Time," "Layer on Layer," and "Not What It Used to Be" lessons and hands-on activity (Exploration 1, 2, & 3)
- **Elaborate:** "Discover More" extension activity
- **Evaluate:** "Lesson Check" and "Lesson Roundup" assessments (formative/summative)

HMH Science Dimensions, Unit 7 - Lesson 2:

- **Engage:** "Can You Explain It?" lesson
- **Explore/Explain:** "Clues from the Past," "Then and Now," and "Ancient Lands" (Exploration 1, 2, & 3)
- **Elaborate:** "Discover More" extension activity
- **Evaluate:** "Lesson Check" and "Lesson Roundup" assessments (formative/summative)

HMH Science Dimensions, Unit 7 - Lesson 3:

- **Engage:** "Can You Explain It?" lesson
- **Explore/Explain:** "Evidence of Environments" and "More Changes" (Exploration 1 & 2)
- **Elaborate:** "Discover More" extension activity
- **Evaluate:** "Lesson Check" and "Lesson Roundup" assessments (formative/summative)

HMH Science Dimensions, Unit 7 - Performance Task (Rocking the Layers):

- **Define Task**
- **Research**
- **Brainstorm**
- **Plan Procedure**
- **Make Model**
- **Communicate**

HMH Science Dimensions, Unit 7 - Unit Project (DinoZoo):

- **Research and Plan**
- **Analyze Results**
- **Claims, Evidence, and Reasoning**

Assessment Evidence - Checking for Understanding (CFU)

- Admit Tickets
- Compare & Contrast
- Create a Multimedia Poster
- DBQ's
- Define
- Describe
- Evaluate
- Evaluation rubrics
- Exit Tickets

- Explaining
- Fist- to-Five or Thumb-Ometer
- HMH End-of-Year Test (Benchmark)
- HMH Mid-Year Test (Benchmark)
- HMH Performance-based Assessment (Alternative)
- Illustration
- Journals
- KWL Chart
- Learning Center Activities
- Multimedia Reports
- Outline
- Question Stems
- Quickwrite
- Quizzes (Formative)
- Red Light, Green Light
- Self- assessments
- Study Guide
- Surveys
- Teacher Observation Checklist
- Think, Pair, Share
- Think, Write, Pair, Share
- Unit review/Test prep
- Unit tests (Summative)
- Web-Based Assessments
- Written Reports

Primary Resources & Materials

HMH Science Dimensions: Teacher Edition, Student workbooks, online resources

HMH Equipment & Safety Kits

HMH Science Dimensions S&E Leveled Readers

- On Level: Earth's Changing Surface and Natural Resources
- Extra Support: Earth's Changing Surface and Natural Resources
- Enrichment: Conserving Earth's Resources

Ancillary Resources

Science Weekly, Scholastic News, NewsELA, YouTube/TeacherTube, National Geographics Kids, Science Channel

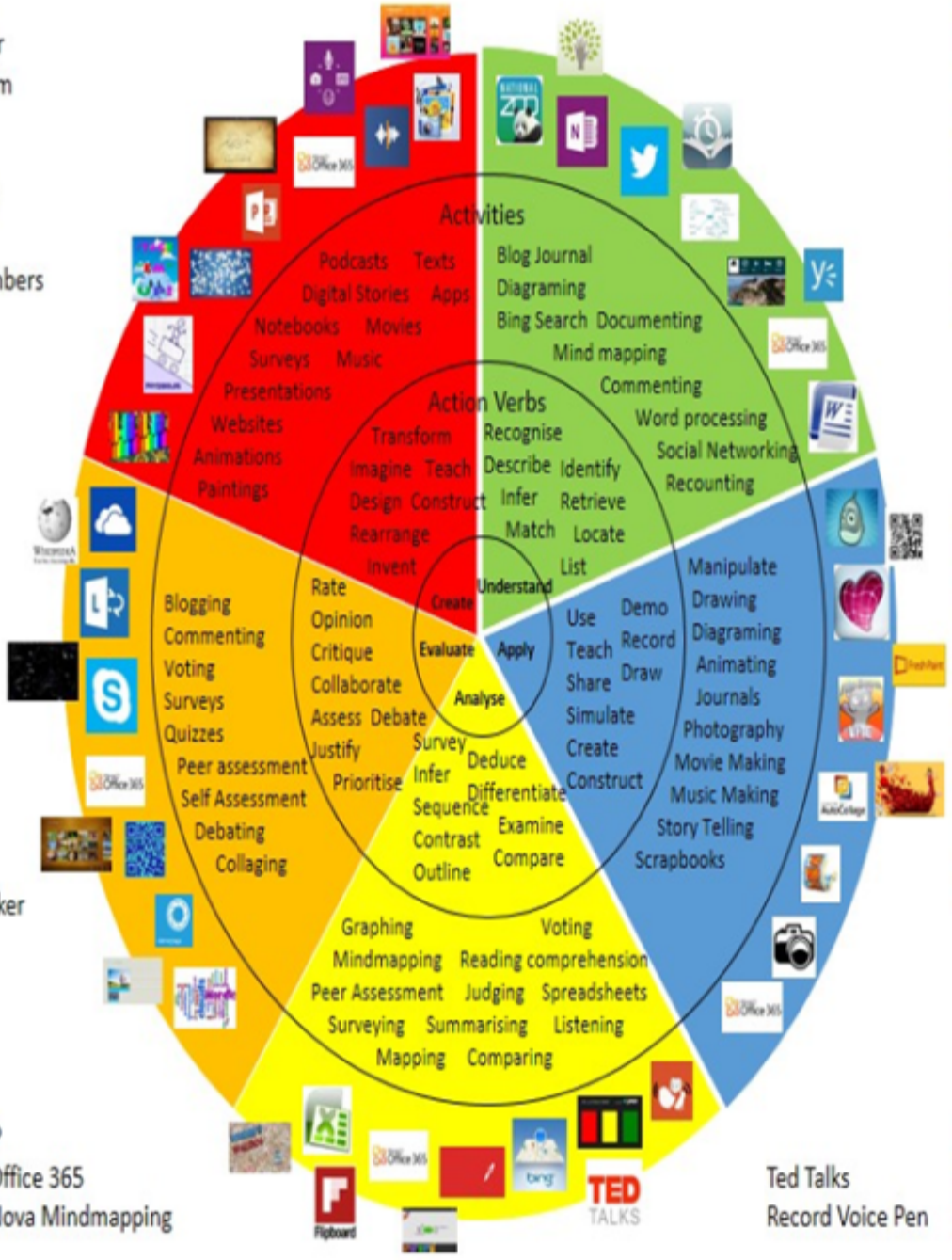
https://ngss-assessment.portal.concord.org/

Technology Infusion

Win 8.1 Apps/Tools Pedagogy Wheel

Podcasts
Photostory 3
Kid Story Builder
Music Maker Jam
Paint A Story
Office 365
MS PowerPoint
Stack 'Em Up
NqSquared Numbers
Physamajig
Xylophone 8

Wikipedia
Skydrive
Lync
SkyMap
Skype
Office 365
Puzzle Touch
Easy QR
Memorylage
Life Moments
Word Cloud Maker



Where's Waldo?
MS Excel Office 365
Flipboard Nova Mindmapping

Ted Talks
Record Voice Pen

Originally taken from http://www.coetail.com/vzimmer/files/2013/02/iPadagogy-Wheel.001.jpg
And adapted for Windows 8.1 devices by Charlotte Beckhurst @CharBeckhurst

Alignment to 21st Century Skills & Technology

Mastery and infusion of **21st Century Skills & Technology** and their Alignment to the core content areas is essential to student learning. The core content areas include:

- English Language Arts;
- Mathematics;
- Science and Scientific Inquiry (Next Generation);
- Social Studies, including American History, World History, Geography, Government and Civics, and Economics;
- World languages;
- Technology;
- Visual and Performing Arts.

CRP.K-12.CRP1.1	Career-ready individuals understand the obligations and responsibilities of being a member of a community, and they demonstrate this understanding every day through their interactions with others. They are conscientious of the impacts of their decisions on others and the environment around them. They think about the near-term and long-term consequences of their actions and seek to act in ways that contribute to the betterment of their teams, families, community and workplace. They are reliable and consistent in going beyond the minimum expectation and in participating in activities that serve the greater good.
CRP.K-12.CRP4.1	Career-ready individuals communicate thoughts, ideas, and action plans with clarity, whether using written, verbal, and/or visual methods. They communicate in the workplace with clarity and purpose to make maximum use of their own and others' time. They are excellent writers; they master conventions, word choice, and organization, and use effective tone and presentation skills to articulate ideas. They are skilled at interacting with others; they are active listeners and speak clearly and with purpose. Career-ready individuals think about the audience for their communication and prepare accordingly to ensure the desired outcome.
CRP.K-12.CRP5.1	Career-ready individuals understand the interrelated nature of their actions and regularly make decisions that positively impact and/or mitigate negative impact on other people, organization, and the environment. They are aware of and utilize new technologies, understandings, procedures, materials, and regulations affecting the nature of their work as it relates to the impact on the social condition, the environment and the profitability of the organization.
CRP.K-12.CRP6.1	Career-ready individuals regularly think of ideas that solve problems in new and different ways, and they contribute those ideas in a useful and productive manner to improve their organization. They can consider unconventional ideas and suggestions as solutions to issues, tasks or problems, and they discern which ideas and suggestions will add greatest value. They seek new methods, practices, and ideas from a variety of sources and seek to apply those ideas to their own workplace. They take action on their ideas and understand how to bring innovation to an organization.

21st Century Skills/Interdisciplinary Themes

- Communication and Collaboration
- Creativity and Innovation
- Critical thinking and Problem Solving
- ICT (Information, Communications and Technology) Literacy
- Information Literacy
- Life and Career Skills
- Media Literacy

21st Century Skills

- Civic Literacy
- Environmental Literacy
- Financial, Economic, Business and Entrepreneurial Literacy
- Global Awareness
- Health Literacy

Differentiation

Differentiations:

- Small group instruction
- Small group assignments
- Extra time to complete assignments
- Pairing oral instruction with visuals
- Repeat directions
- Use manipulatives
- Center-based instruction
- Token economy
- Study guides
- Teacher reads assessments allowed
- Scheduled breaks
- Rephrase written directions
- Multisensory approaches
- Additional time
- Preview vocabulary
- Preview content & concepts
- Story guides
- Behavior management plan
- Highlight text
- Student(s) work with assigned partner
- Visual presentation
- Assistive technology

- Auditory presentations
- Large print edition
- Dictation to scribe
- Small group setting

Hi-Prep Differentiations:

- Alternative formative and summative assessments
- Choice boards
- Games and tournaments
- Group investigations
- Guided Reading
- Independent research and projects
- Interest groups
- Learning contracts
- Leveled rubrics
- Literature circles
- Multiple intelligence options
- Multiple texts
- Personal agendas
- Project-based learning
- Problem-based learning
- Stations/centers
- Think-Tac-Toes
- Tiered activities/assignments
- Tiered products
- Varying organizers for instructions

Lo-Prep Differentiations

- Choice of books or activities
- Cubing activities
- Exploration by interest
- Flexible grouping
- Goal setting with students
- Jigsaw
- Mini workshops to re-teach or extend skills
- Open-ended activities
- Think-Pair-Share
- Reading buddies
- Varied journal prompts
- Varied supplemental materials

Special Education Learning (IEP's & 504's)

- printed copy of board work/notes provided
- additional time for skill mastery
- assistive technology
- behavior management plan
- Center-Based Instruction
- check work frequently for understanding
- computer or electronic device utilizes
- extended time on tests/ quizzes
- have student repeat directions to check for understanding
- highlighted text visual presentation
- modified assignment format
- modified test content
- modified test format
- modified test length
- multi-sensory presentation
- multiple test sessions
- preferential seating
- preview of content, concepts, and vocabulary
- Provide modifications as dictated in the student's IEP/504 plan
- reduced/shortened reading assignments
- Reduced/shortened written assignments
- secure attention before giving instruction/directions
- shortened assignments
- student working with an assigned partner
- teacher initiated weekly assignment sheet
- Use open book, study guides, test prototypes

English Language Learning (ELL)

- teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information
- using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarif
- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student’s learning;
- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- decreasing the amount of workpresented or required
- having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher’s notes

- modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- providing study guides
- reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments
- reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
- tutoring by peers
- using computer word processing spell check and grammar check features
- using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests

At Risk

- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information
- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning
- allowing students to select from given choices
- allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- collaborating (general education teacher and specialist) to modify vocabulary, omit or modify items to reflect objectives for the student, eliminate sections of the test, and determine how the grade will be determined prior to giving the test.
- decreasing the amount of workpresented or required
- having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher's notes
- marking students' correct and acceptable work, not the mistakes
- modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- providing study guides
- reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments
- reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
- tutoring by peers
- using authentic assessments with real-life problem-solving
- using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests
- using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify

Talented and Gifted Learning (T&G)

- Above grade level placement option for qualified students
- Advanced problem-solving
- Allow students to work at a faster pace
- Cluster grouping

- Complete activities aligned with above grade level text using Benchmark results
- Create a blog or social media page about their unit
- Create a plan to solve an issue presented in the class or in a text
- Debate issues with research to support arguments
- Flexible skill grouping within a class or across grade level for rigor
- Higher order, critical & creative thinking skills, and discovery
- Multi-disciplinary unit and/or project
- Teacher-selected instructional strategies that are focused to provide challenge, engagement, and growth opportunities
- Utilize exploratory connections to higher-grade concepts
- Utilize project-based learning for greater depth of knowledge