



Nature-Watch

www.nature-watch.com
info@nature-watch.com

800-228-5816 Phone
800-228-5814 Fax

Digging Through the Past

1. Skill Builders (2)

- a. Go on a day hike & examine the geology or archaeology of the region. Make sketches or take photos of major environmental features.

Recommended Products:

[Hands-On Archaeology \(#610g\)](#)

- b. "Grow your own crystals. Track crystal formation with sketches, descriptions or photos. Analyze your structure."
- c. "Make a collection of at least 20 specimens of rocks, minerals & fossils. Accurately ID and label each specimen."

Recommended Products:

[Rocks and Minerals \(#250\)](#)

- d. Find out how archaeologists and anthropologists make discoveries about past cultures.

Recommended Products:

[Archaeology Adventure Activity Kit \(#104\)](#)

- e. "Find out about different types of fossils, including how they are formed & the clues they give us about history of the earth & the life it has supported."

Recommended Products:

[Fossil Find Activity Kit \(#106\)](#)

[Fossil Collection \(#269a\)](#)

[Fossils Poster \(#823v\)](#)

2. Technology (1)

- a. What technology is used to map the ocean floor or the surface of the earth? Make a simple topographical map of a local area.
- b. Put together a geologist's adventure kit that includes the equipment & tools geologists need in the field.

Recommended Products:

[Mineral Hardness Scale Kit \(#250g\)](#)

- c. Investigate how modern technology assists archaeologists & paleontologist in recreating art & artifacts from the past.
- d. Learn about earthquakes & the frequency with which they occur in your state.



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3. Service Projects (1)

- a. Set up a rock & mineral search for younger scouts at their meeting place.

Recommended Products:

[Rocks and Minerals \(#250\)](#)

- b. Do a project to reduce erosion on your area. Devise a method to show your project halted or reduced erosion.
 - c. Learn how weathering occurs & what effect it has on rocks & soils. Visit places to observe the effects of weathering.
 - d. "Collect objects, such as a tooth, a shell, or a cleaned chicken bone to use as mock fossils with younger girls."
 - e. "Learn about environmental issues in your area, such as agricultural, mining, foresting or irrigation practices."
- ## 4. Career Exploration (1)
- a. Invite someone who works in a geology-related field to speak to your troop or group. Ask them to discuss the local geology of your area.
 - b. Read about an individual who has done work in one of the earth sciences. What has been the significance of their work?
 - c. Geology & related sciences offer a wide variety of careers to explore. Select an area & interview someone in that field.
 - d. Do a college search to find out which schools offer programs in fields related to earth history or geology.