

Seeping Stones Experiment

Materials

- 5 rocks collected by each group
- Additional samples of sedimentary rock (ie. Limestone, sandstone, shale and granite)
- 1 eyedropper or pipette
- Markers
- Water
- Paper towels

Instructions

1. Place the rocks that were collected outside in the middle of table. Decide as a group on the best 5 rocks. Place the remaining rocks that will not be used in a container at the materials workstation.
2. The material getter should collect the following rocks from the materials workstation: sandstone, limestone, shale and granite. Collect paper towels, a cup of water, pipette, and a marker as well. The group should now have a total of 9 rocks and all the materials needed to begin the experiment.
3. Using the marker, place a number (1-5) on the rocks that were found outside. This is so we can identify the rocks through out the experiment.
4. Fill in the group's predictions of what they think will happen when five drops of water are dropped on each rock.

Predictions

Rock Samples	Will the rock absorb the water?	Will the rock repel the water?
Rock #1		
Rock #2		
Rock #3		
Rock #4		
Rock #5		
Sandstone		
Limestone		
Shale		
Granite		

5. Conduct the experiment. Place the rocks on the paper towels; carefully drop 5 drops of water on each rock.

Results

Rock Samples	Did the rock absorb the water?	Did the rock repel the water?
Rock #1		
Rock #2		
Rock #3		
Rock #4		
Rock #5		
Sandstone		
Limestone		
Shale		
Granite		

Record what happens to the water.

6. Select and sort the rocks that "drank" or absorbed the water.
7. What happened to the water that was not absorbed into the rocks? Why do you think some rocks absorbed the water while others repelled it?

8. Where do you think the water went if it "disappeared?"

9. Using collected data, hypothesize what will happen if ten drops of water are used. Make your own chart and test your hypothesis.
10. Chart and graph the number of water drops absorbed by each rock. Be prepared to share your findings with the class.