

Grade 2 Science
Unit: Earth's Materials

Dear Parents,

Over the next several weeks we will be studying Earth's Materials in Science. Attached is information your child will be expected to learn during the unit.

It would be helpful if you review this material with your child at home. I will give at least 1 week notice of the test date. It would be helpful to "study" a small portion each night rather than trying to review it all right before the test.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

The Second Grade Teachers

Essential Questions:	Answers:
1. What are the properties of soil?	Some properties of soil are the color, texture, ability to retain water and the ability to support growth. For example, sand is a type of soil that is light in color, has a rough texture and water goes right through it. Clay is a type of soil that is dark in color, smooth in texture and water does not go through it quickly. Some plants cannot grow in sand. Some plants cannot grow in clay.
2. How do humans use rock and soil to make resources?	People use rock to make building materials and roads. People use soil to grow food and make bricks. People get wood from trees that grow in the soil.
3. How do humans impact the environment?	Humans hurt the environment by wasting resources and polluting. Humans can help the environment by not wasting resources, reusing things and recycling.

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Vocabulary:

Word:	What it means:	Example:
rock	A hard nonliving thing that comes from the Earth.	People use rock to make gravel for roads.
soil	The loose top layer of the Earth's surface.	People use soil to grow food.
resource	Anything that people can use.	Water, hammer, pencil, tape, boxes
natural resource	Something found in <u>nature</u> that people use to meet their needs.	Rocks to build things. Soil to grow things. Oil to make fuel for cars. Trees to make wood. Water to drink.
texture	The look or feel of something.	Sand paper has rough texture. Silk has a smooth texture.
color	Color depends on how something reflects light.	Red, blue, yellow and green are colors.
pollution	Waste that harms the land, water or air.	<u>Air pollution</u> - things that make the air dirty like smoke from cars or factories. <u>Water pollution</u> - waste that is put into the water like paper, oil, plastic etc. <u>Land pollution</u> - Litter on the land like leaving trash at the beach.
litter	Trash that people do not put in a trash can.	You are eating a candy bar at the park and instead of putting the wrapper in a trash can you throw it on the ground.
reuse	To use something again.	Use the back of a paper to draw a picture or for scrap paper. Use paper bags over and over again before throwing them away.
recycle	To use old materials to make new things	Instead of throwing cans away, some people or communities send them to get recycled into new cans.