Name & Surname: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Rock Detectives

Compare and group rocks by look and feel.

About 40 minutes Level ★★★☆☆

Task A

Example done for you

/3

Look at each rock. Swap it into the right group by its appearance.

	Mixed rocks		My groups
1	 light grey smooth pebble	- - - ➜	Smooth light group
2	 white smooth chalk piece	- - - ➜	
3	 dark grey rough lump	- - - ➜	
4	 brown rough bumpy stone	- - - ➜	

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Sort Rock Problems

Think about why mixed-up rocks are hard to sort.

Key words

rock: a hard natural material from the ground

texture: how something feels to touch

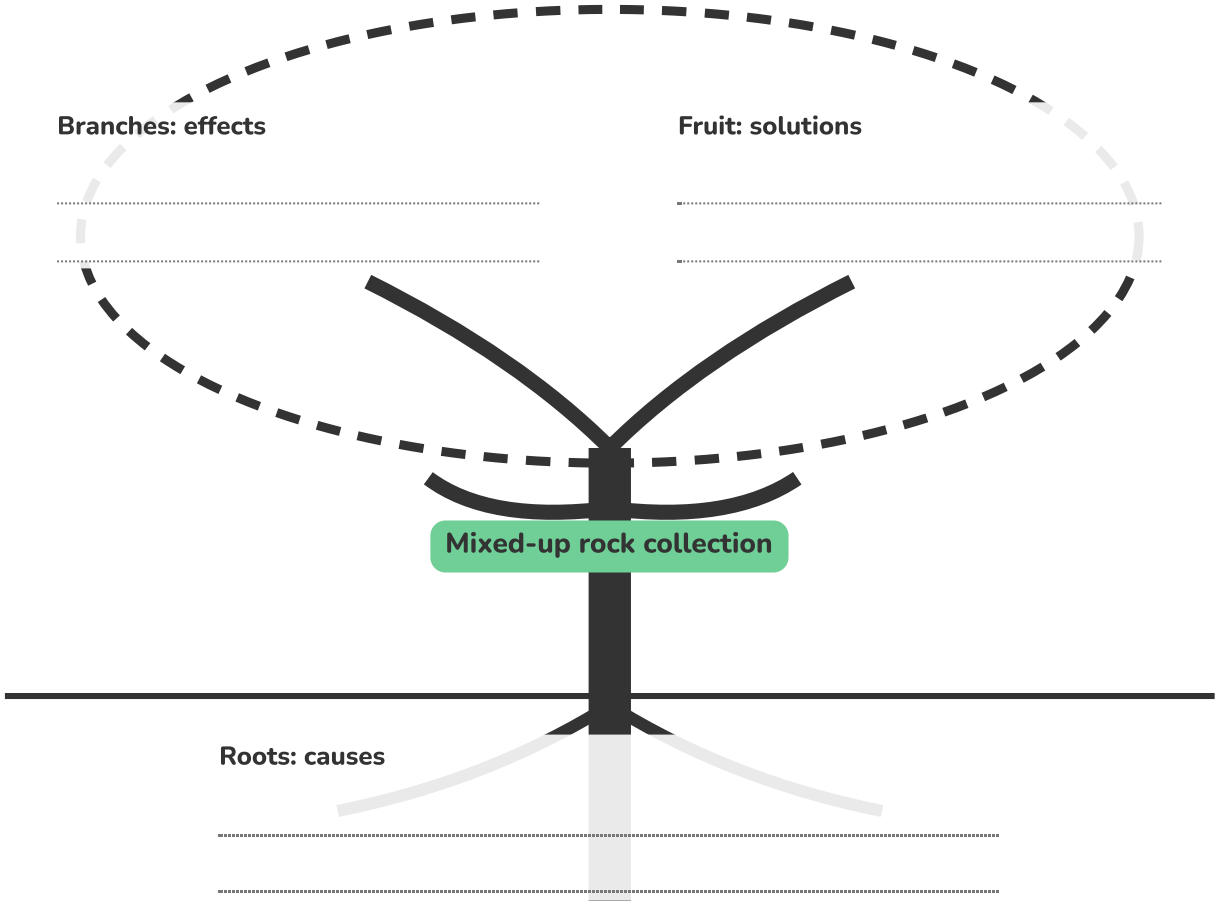
group: things put together because they are alike

appearance: what something looks like

colour: for example grey, brown or white

Task B

Think about a mixed-up collection. Fill the tree with causes and effects.



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Rock Sorting Story

Show step by step how you sort rocks.

Did you know?

Did you know? Some classes use chocolate to remember rocks – a layered bar for **sedimentary**, a bubbly bar for igneous and a Boost bar for metamorphic!

Task C

Draw how you compare and group rocks. Show looking and sorting.

1

First, collect 4 rocks in a tray.

2

Then, look closely at colour and shape.

3

Next, feel texture and check shine.

4

Finally, put alike rocks into groups.

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Rock Work Timeline

Put the steps for sorting rocks in order.

Did you know?

Did you know? **Weathering** and erosion can sculpt rocks into interesting shapes!

Task D

/2

Read the steps. Write the letter for each card next to the right time to show the order.

A Look at colour with magnifying glass

B Compare weight in your hand

9:00 Collect rocks in a tray

9:10 ☐ _____

9:20 Feel texture and check shine

9:30 ☐ _____

9:45 Put alike rocks into groups

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More Rock Examples

Give your own examples of rocks you grouped.

Task E

Give rocks for the category. Make the last one unusual.

Give a rough, dark-coloured rock

An example

.....

Now another

.....

Now one nobody else will think of!

.....

How do you know they all fit?

.....

.....

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Rock Detectives

Task F

/4

Complete the word map for **rock** to show what you **know**.

Definition (in my own words)

Characteristics

rock

Examples

grey pebble

Non-examples

wooden block

How did I do?

Circle a face for each line.

I can compare rocks by appearance.

I can group rocks that look and feel alike.

I can describe rocks using colour and texture.

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Answer sheet: Rock Detectives

Task A

1. light grey smooth pebble → Smooth light group
2. white smooth chalk piece → Smooth light group
3. dark grey rough lump → Rough dark group
4. brown rough bumpy stone → Rough dark group

Task B

Answers will vary, e.g. causes: different colours and textures; effects: hard to describe and group; solutions: use a magnifying glass and sort slowly

Task C

Answers will vary.

Task D

A: 9:10 – Look at colour with magnifying glass
B: 9:30 – Compare weight in your hand

Task E

Answers will vary, e.g. a dark grey garden stone; a bumpy brown playground rock

Task F

Definition: a hard natural material from the ground
Characteristics: comes in different colours, can be smooth or rough, can be shiny or dull
Examples: grey pebble, white chalk piece
Non-examples: wooden block, plastic toy

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