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| About this Resource:  *This text set centers around the topic of a high-quality read aloud anchor text, in order to build students’ knowledge and vocabulary. Anchor texts are a part of Student Achievement Partners’ Read Aloud Project and full lesson plans are hyperlinked. Each Related Text is a suggested lightweight resource that connects to the topic of the read aloud and builds student knowledge and vocabulary. Also included are high-interest, topically related Optional Supporting Resources and Writing/Culminating Tasks in varied genres. Suggested resources are free or almost free (requiring a teacher license or sign on) and can be used as read aloud texts or for small group or independent reading depending on their complexity. All are intended to be optional resources for the classroom and teachers are encouraged to modify, adapt, or supplement these text sets with related resources. Text Sets are intended to support approximately two weeks of instruction. For additional suggestions for use, read this blog post:* [*https://achievethecore.org/aligned/reading-to-learn/*](https://achievethecore.org/aligned/reading-to-learn/)*.* |

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| **Key Content (Synopsis of two weeks)** | |
| Read Aloud:  Rocks in His Head  <http://achievethecore.org/page/2570/rocks-in-his-head> | **Synopsis of Text:**  This literary text by Carol Otis Hurst tells the story of her father's life and passion for collecting rocks. Although people continually tell her father that he is foolish, he continues to collect. Eventually the father’s passion and knowledge of rocks leads him to a new career as a curator of mineralogy because he has “rocks in his head.” |
| Related Text 1:  Magnificent Minerals  <https://www.readworks.org/article/Magnificent-Minerals/629a5cf8-48cc-4d32-b5ba-94fdf30c5161#!articleTab:content/> | **Synopsis, highlighting related learning:**  This article teaches students what minerals are and provides a description of a list of common minerals. This text provides background information about minerals that will help students to understand the job of a mineralogist in *Rocks in His Head*.  *Teacher note: Consider inviting students to view images of the minerals described in the text.* |
| Related Text 2:  What Exactly Are Rocks?  <https://www.readworks.org/article/All-About-Rocks/5a5c6aa4-4d67-459c-a1ea-17c18f725856#!articleTab:content/> | **Synopsis, highlighting related learning:**  In this article, students learn all about rocks: what they are, where they are found, and what they are made of. This text provides helpful information to support students’ understanding of the narrative in *Rocks in His Head*. |
| Related Text 3:  There’s Nothing Hard About Rocks!  <http://www.librarypoint.org/nothing_hard_about_rocks> | **Synopsis, highlighting related learning:**  This blog post explains how one can identify the kind of rock he/she has found by considering its physical characteristics: color, size, density, and fracture. This text extends the information about rocks and minerals included throughout *Rocks in His Head.* |

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| **Optional Supporting Resources** | |
| Be a Rock Detective!  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tNs1gqkYerg> | **Description/rationale for inclusion:**  This video teaches students about the three types of rocks. The narrator explains what igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic rocks are, and how each is formed. Students are then invited to become “rock detectives” and guess what kind of rock is being presented. The content of this video extends the ideas in the text *Rocks in His Head*, and provides information that might help students to become “rock detectives” as they classify rocks they find in real life. |
| How to Start a Rock Collection  <http://boyslife.org/hobbies-projects/funstuff/144171/how-to-start-a-rock-collection/> | **Description/rationale for inclusion:**  This web page explains how students can start their own rock collection. The class might also begin a class collection. The page includes tips on where and how to search for rocks, as well as advice about how to store them. |
| Sorting and Classifying Rocks: Geology for Kids  <http://rhythmsofplay.com/sorting-classifying-rocks-geology-kids/> | **Description/rationale for inclusion:**  This web page explains how students can sort and classify rocks in the classroom. Included are different categories that students might sort by (size, color, shape). This activity could be paired nicely with “starting a rock collection” above, after students have collected the rocks. |
| **Writing/Culminating Tasks** | |
| Text Type 1: Informational | **Description of task:**  Think about what you have learned about rocks from *Rocks In His Head* and the other texts about rocks. What have you learned about rocks? Write a informational piece about rocks. Remember to:   * Introduce the topic you are writing about * Include three facts you have learned about rocks * Wrap up the piece with a concluding sentence |
| Text Type 2: Opinion | **Description of task:**  A first grader named Naomi walked by our classroom and heard that we are studying rocks. She said, “All rocks are basically the same!” Do you agree with Naomi? Why or why not?  Remember to: state your opinion, provide reasons using all that we have learned about rocks, use linking words and provide a conclusion. |
| Task Type 3: Research | **Description of task:**  Invite students to work in pairs to research one type of rock and create a teaching poster about it. Consider using this site: <https://www.dkfindout.com/us/earth/rocks-and-minerals/>. |
| All content linked to within this resource was available for use when this resource was published in January 2018. Over time, the organizations that manage that external content may move or remove it or change the permissions. If the content is no longer available, please email info@studentsachieve.net. | |