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# A Word to the Teacher

## Geology

Our changing earth . . . the story told by the geologists of this fluctuating ball of land and water ...

The earth's crust is like a mass of stiff toffee . . . it bulges, stretches and is squeezed together by powerful forces within. If you were far out in space, watching the earth . . . and time was speeded up so that thousands of years would seem like a second . . . earth might look like a living, pulsing thing:

Mountains rising up, crumbling, folding and then being worn down flat . . . Seas advancing over the land and then draining away . . . Volcanoes bursting up through the ocean and forming new islands. Other lands sinking slowly beneath the sea . . . The very continents breaking apart into smaller pieces . . . then re-fusing again in other places.

These forces are still at work all around us, slowly, slowly recreating our world.

# Interest Development Centre

## Geology

The purpose of the Interest Development Centre is to stimulate interest in the topic area. The student needs time for browsing and investigation for maximum benefit.

(Beginning ideas . . . you and your students will think of more . . . let parents and other teachers know about the Centre and it will grow without effort.)

### **ARTEFACTS, such as:**

Fossils  
Sea shells  
Microscope  
Globe  
Maps

Coal  
Rocks  
Jewels  
Crystals  
Rock tumbler

### **BOOKS, POSTERS, VIDEOS about:**

Earthquakes  
Volcanoes  
Rocks  
Glaciers  
Crystals  
Jewels  
Jewellery making  
Coal  
Caves and caving  
Rock formations

Geologic Ages  
Oceanography  
Tides, Pool  
Undersea explorations  
Pollution  
Energy sources  
Sonar  
Rivers of the world  
Aurora Borealis  
Plate tectonics

### **RECORDS and CASSETTES OF SOUNDS OF THE EARTH:**

(or music to set a mood)

Recordings of waves crashing, rain falling or thunder crashing are inspiring.



# 1. Earth's Beginnings

Our star, the sun, is one of 200 billion stars in the Milky Way galaxy. The universe contains at least 100 billion other galaxies. Each of these galaxies contain at least 100 billion stars.



Think about planet Earth . . . imagine that you are far out in space looking back at our great sphere. With your x-ray vision, see the land with its tall mountains, its green valleys and its dry deserts. Notice the water . . . some peaceful . . . some forceful . . . some clear and sparkling . . . some warm and salty.

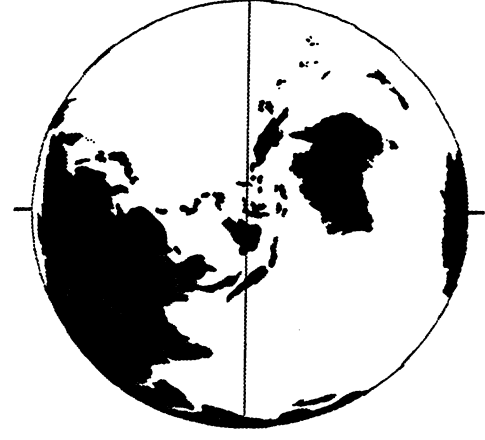
LIST three ways planet Earth could have been formed:  
(Be creative!)





# 3. Earth: The Planet

The Earth is a rocky mass . . .  
1,300 kilometres from surface to surface.  
It is the third planet from the sun.



MAKE a timeline showing the  
geologic ages.

OR

CREATE a mobile showing the Earth,  
the sun and other planets.

