

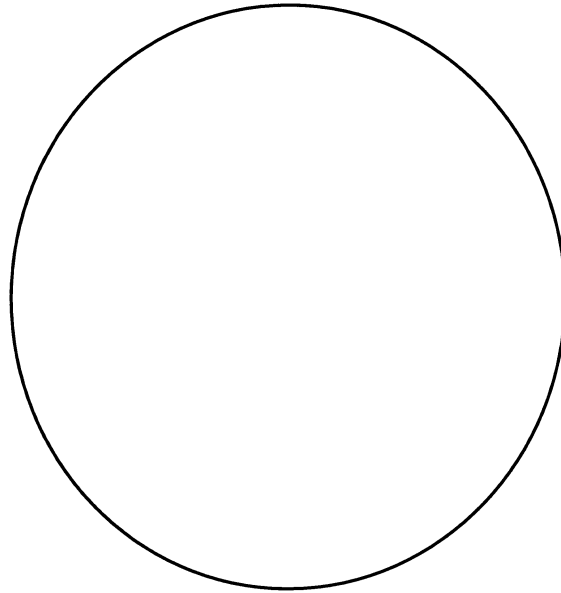
# The Earth

Before you begin reading *The Magic School Bus® Inside the Earth*, complete the activities “What Is Inside the Earth?” and “How Are Rocks Formed?”

## What Is Inside the Earth?

Ms. Frizzle is about to take her class on another wild adventure study trip, this time to explore the inside of the planet Earth. The Friz put her students to work writing reports on the earth and then assigned them to bring a rock to class the next day.

The Friz asked her class, “Don’t you often wonder what is inside the earth?” What do you think is inside the earth? Use this circle to draw a view of the inside of the earth without looking up the answer in any books. Save this picture to look at again at the end of this study after you have learned more about the earth.



Cutaway View of the Earth

## How Are Rocks Formed?

On the lines below, write a brief description of how you think rocks are made. On the back of this paper, include drawings to help explain your ideas.

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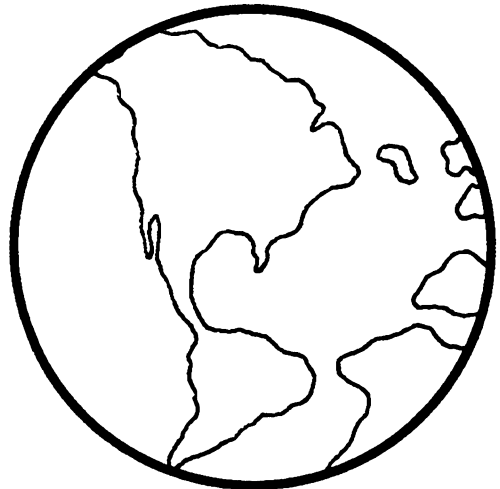
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# Introduction

The use of trade books can enhance the study of science. The key to selecting these books is to check them for scientific accuracy and appropriateness for the level of the students. *The Magic School Bus®* series, written by Joanna Cole, provides outstanding examples of books which can help students enjoy and learn about science. These books are delightfully written and scientifically accurate, thanks to the thorough research done by the author.

This **Science/Literature Unit** is directly related to *The Magic School Bus® Inside the Earth*. The activities in this unit are particularly appropriate for Years 5 - 9. Teachers who use this unit will find a variety of lessons to do before, during, and after reading the book with their students. These include the following:

- Pre-reading Activities
- A Biographical Sketch and Picture of the Author
- A Book Summary
- Activity-oriented lessons which expand the topics covered in the story:
  - distinguishing between rocks and minerals
  - observing soil and sand
  - making simulated sedimentary, metamorphic, and igneous rocks
  - creating a cave
  - making a model of the earth
  - investigating crustal movement
  - simulating volcanic eruption
  - walking through the rock cycle
- Post-reading Activity
  - identifying minerals
- Unit Assessment
- Answer Key
- Glossary



This unit is designed to help you present exciting lessons for your students so they can develop their understanding and appreciation of the functions of their own planet, earth.

# Table of Contents

<b>Introduction</b> .....	3
<b>Before the Book (Pre-reading Activities)</b> .....	4
<b>About the Author</b> .....	5
<b>Book Summary</b> .....	6
<b>Hands-on Lessons:</b>	
◆ Rocks and Minerals.....	7
◆ The Earth’s Crust.....	9
◆ Sedimentary Rock.....	11
◆ Caves.....	13
◆ Metamorphic Rock.....	18
◆ Igneous Rock.....	19
◆ Layers of the Earth.....	20
◆ The Moving Crust.....	26
◆ Volcanoes.....	33
◆ Rock Cycle.....	36
<b>After the Book (Post-reading Activity)</b>	
◆ Identifying Minerals.....	38
<b>Unit Assessment</b> .....	40
<b>Answer Key</b> .....	44
<b>Glossary</b> .....	46