## Lesson Plan: Sorting Rocks

**Standards: Kindergarten Science: A 4.1.7, R 4.3.1**

**Objectives-**Students will:

* investigate their outside environment
* collect,sort and organize rocks
* draw conclusions about their rocks
* discussion about rocks and their findings
* draw a picture journal describing their process

**Materials:**

Brown lunch sack per student, paper and colored pencils

**Procedure:**

1. Go on a field trip around the playground or neighborhood
2. Have the children collect rocks and fill bags half full
3. Either back in classroom or in a yard, have students sort the rocks into different categories allowing the students to choose their own criteria (They could sort by large and small, rough and smooth, color, etc…)
4. Discuss how students sorted rocks and what method they used
5. Talk about how scientists, geologists, sort rocks by determining their glassiness, hardness, color, inclusion
6. Ask questions: Why are some rocks bigger than others? Predict why rocks break down? Why do you think some rocks are different colors?

**Follow-up:** Take kids to the Tate Museum and have the educator give them a rock tour including the rock cycle.