

Name: _____

Date: _____

PROJECT: PET ROCK BIOGRAPHY

Period: _____



DUE DATE: Tuesday, September 23rd, 2013 - If doing the whole project (For extra credit)

DUE DATE: Tuesday, September 16th, 2013 if only writing pet rock story

The last few weeks of class, we have been discussing what the rock cycle is and why it is important to the earth we live on. Whether a rock is igneous, sedimentary, or metamorphic depends on the processes that formed it. At one point in their lives, rocks have been through all three major stages of the rock cycle. Some of these original rocks have even changed many times to become the rocks we see today on the surface of the earth. The rock cycle is responsible for constantly changing the surface of the earth, but it takes thousands and millions of years for most of these changes to take place.

In order to demonstrate your understanding of the rock cycle and its processes, you will be completing an at-home project. There are two major parts to this project:

- PET ROCK (10 points)** - You are first to find yourself a pet rock. You actually have to find a rock and you will need to name it and give the rock a personality. You may want to give it a face, hair, feet, a tail, clothes, accessories - anything you want. Think back to the examples I showed you in class. **You will be expected to bring this pet rock on the due date.** Your ten points will be based off your creativity of the rock.
- BIOGRAPHY (90 points)** - This part of the project is the bulk of your grade. I expect details to be added and explanations to be given. Describe what happens to the rock as it goes through the processes that change it from one type of rock into another type. **Be sure to include all the major stages (sedimentary, igneous, and metamorphic) and explain the processes (weathering, sediments, erosion, compaction, cementation, melting, cooling, heat, pressure) of the rock cycle. Your pet rock must go through each phase of the rock cycle at least once in its lifetime.** Throughout the story, describe where the rock may be, how the rock feels, and what it looks like as the changes are occurring. You may add your own creative touches to the story but the story should also be scientifically accurate. You may refer to your notebook, your own textbook, the library, or the Internet for this important information about the rock cycle. We have spent many days in class discussing this never-ending cycle. **You will need to present your story using one of the project options on the back. You may NOT simply write your story on a sheet of paper and turn that in for your project.**

Remember, this project is going to take time to complete. Do NOT wait to the last minute! Have fun! A checklist has been provided for you to help with the flow of your story as well as a grading rubric.

No matter what choice you make, these are some of the guidelines that you need to follow for all projects:

1. all text should be either typed or hand-written neatly in blue or black ink
2. underline or highlight all rock words the FIRST time you use them (**igneous rock, melting, cooling, magma, lava, sedimentary rock, weathering, erosion, compaction, cementation, metamorphic rock, heat, pressure**)
3. explain fully what is involved with each process for each rock
4. *1 page/frame/slide is for my title, name and period
5. all pictures should be in full color whether printed from the computer or hand-drawn
6. spelling counts!
7. pay close attention to the content of your story...make sure the pathway your rock chooses can be followed scientifically

Your pet rock's story can take on any of the following formats, but you CANNOT simply write your story on a sheet of paper and turn it in!

❖ **OPTION 1: Cartoon Storyboard/Comic Strip (Posterboard)**

You will design, draw, and color a cartoon storyboard that tells a story of your pet's rock cycle journey. The cartoon storyboard needs to be at least twelve (12) frames in length (including #4 above). Discuss what is happening to your main character (pet rock) under each frame and add dialogue to your characters. Each cartoon frame will need to be large enough so that the characters and text can be seen easily and clearly. The cartoon should clearly tell a short story involving your pet rock traveling through the rock cycle.

❖ **OPTION 2: Power Point Presentation or Video Interview**

You are a writer that wants to tell your pet rock's story electronically using technology. Your job is to develop a power point presentation to tell your pet rock's life story. Your presentation will need to have at least twelve (12) slides (including #4 above). You will need to use at least 5 pictures (can be clip art or pictures taken with digital camera) within your presentation. Your presentation should clearly tell your pet's story. This is to be written as a story and not as just class notes. You must be able to save your project on a jump drive and have a working computer at home.

❖ **OPTION 3: Flipbook**

You can tell about your pet rock's adventures through a flipbook-style story. You will need to have a minimum of twelve (12) tabs (including #4 above) in your flipbook. Your flipbook needs to be in full color and should clearly tell a short story involving your pet rock traveler.

❖ **OPTION 4: Scrapbook**

Using scrapbook materials/pictures, you can describe your pet rock's story of the rock cycle. Scrapbooks are known for following chronological order as well as being decorative. It should contain at least twelve (12) pages (including #4 above).

❖ **OPTION 5: Children's Book/Picture Book**

Your children's book must have a front cover, a title, page numbers, back cover, and illustrations. It should contain at least twelve (12) pages (including #4 above) explaining the pathway that your pet rock decided to take through the rock cycle.

❖ **OPTION 6: Your Choice**

Must be approved by Mrs. Henderson before starting.