

Learning Goal: Examine the different candy bars and compare/contrast them to the rock types.

Standard in Practice:

SC 3-3.1 Classify rocks and soils on a basis of their properties.

Review:

There are 3 main categories of different types of rocks:

- 
- 
- 

The differences between these three categories include how each type is formed. Fill in the table below with how each type of rock is formed and a few examples of each.

	Igneous	Sedimentary	Metamorphic
How is it formed?			
Examples:			

Overview:

Though we have all had many experiences with rocks, very few of us have actually paid much attention to the detailed differences between the different types of rocks with which we have come into contact. And even if we had paid great attention to those details, it can sometimes be very difficult to tell which category a rock would fit into.

So the intent of this activity is for you to use your knowledge of a topic with which most of us are quite familiar – candy bars – to explore some of the main differences between the three basic rock types. You will be making observations about candy bar pieces, pretending that those pieces are newly discovered types of rocks. The focus of your observations will be to try to categorize each new ‘rock’ into one of the three main categories of rocks.

Procedure:

1. As a group, acquire one sample of ‘rock’ (candy bar) in a plastic bag. As tempting as it may be, do NOT taste the samples, or even remove them from their bags. Also attempt to limit the amount of time you handle your sample, since this type of ‘rock’ may have a tendency to melt quickly in your hand.

2. Look at the 'rock' and do a drawing of its main internal features in your data table. (Ignore the chocolate covering on your 'rock'. It should not influence your decisions about categorizing them.) Also make observations about the internal appearance of the 'rock' and record your observations in your data table. Remember that the focus of your observations should be to help you categorize your sample into one of the three main categories of rocks.

3. As a group, make a decision about which category your 'rock' fits into, based on the observations you have made.

4. Repeat steps 1-3 with each of the other 'rock' samples. (Hint: When you are finished, you should have one sample of each type of rock.)

"Rock" type	Drawing	Observations	Category
Kit Kat			
Snickers			
3 Musketeers			

Extension Question:

Imagine that you are a teacher and you are re-writing this activity for a class. Try to think of food items, other than candy bars, that would be good examples of each of the three main categories of rocks. Give an example for each category, along with an explanation of why your example fits that category so well.

Igneous:

Sedimentary:

Metamorphic: