

## Build the Rock Cycle

**Subject:** Science

**Grade Level:** 3-5 (ages 8-11)

**Time:** 50 minutes

**Lesson Objective:**

Students will research and create a diagram of the elements and important terms of the rock cycle.

**Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy in History / Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects<sup>1</sup>:**

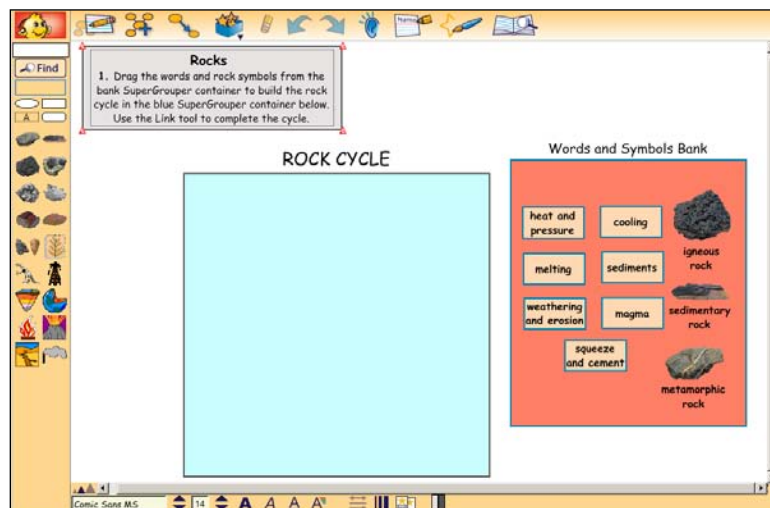
College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards for Language (K-5):

**Standard 6.** Acquire and use accurately a range of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases sufficient for reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the college and career readiness level; demonstrate independence in gathering vocabulary knowledge when encountering an unknown term important to comprehension or expression.

**Overview:**

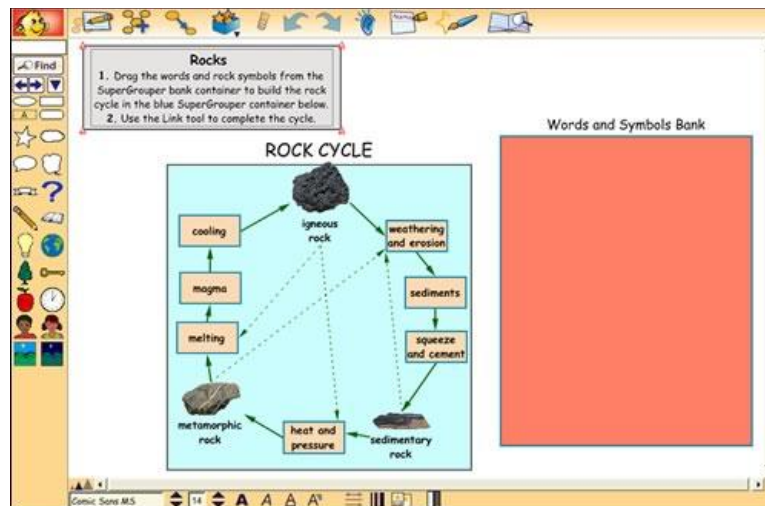
The rock cycle shows how rocks form, break down and recycle through the Earth's system. Understanding this process is a stepping-stone to learning about the Earth's surface features formed by magma, erosion, weathering, transport and deposition. This Kidspiration® lesson helps students research and arrange the rock cycle, with all its parts and functions, into a visual display.

1. Open *Rocks.kia* from **Kidspiration Starter>Activities>Science** and discuss the words and actions in the "Words and Symbols Bank" **SuperGrouper™** container.



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2. Discuss any new concepts.
3. Show students how to drag and link symbols with words to build a rock cycle in the space provided. Inform students that they will use each symbol once, but each word can be used more than once by linking to a word multiple times if needed. See *Rocks exemplar.kid* to view a completed activity.



4. Have students work individually or in pairs to build a rock cycle. Encourage students to use the Internet or other resources to find information that will help them correctly arrange the words and symbols into a functional rock cycle.
5. After students complete the activity, discuss the different rock cycles that were constructed. Walk through each step and discuss the logical transition from one step to the next.

### Assessment:

- Observe each student to be sure he or she accurately builds a rock cycle model.
- Determine that the activity has been completed correctly.

### Adaptations / Extensions:

- All of the rock cycle research can be done as a class before introducing this Kidspiration activity.
- This activity may also be used as a starting point for earth science research projects. Once the activity is completed, students may choose a rock type or rock cycle process to investigate further, either individually or in pairs.

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