

National Geographic Kids Readers: Rocks and Minerals

Notes for parents: reading this book with your child

- Before your child shares this book with you, look at the front cover and inside title page and discuss what you can see in the pictures. Ask your child to describe the crystals, and to talk about any special rocks they have ever found.
- Look through the contents list together and ask your child to name any gemstones that they have heard of, and that they might find in the book.
- Here are some ways you can help your child as they learn to read more complex information books:
 - Help your child to read unfamiliar words, e.g. *crystal, geologist, magma, igneous rocks, sedimentary rocks, metamorphic rocks, quartz, mica, feldspar, sapphire, pegmatite, obsidian, basalt, shale, conglomerate, tectonic plate, quartzite, pumice, geode*.
 - Talk about the words and their meanings, and show your child how to use the picture glossary to help with understanding.
 - Show your interest in the information and be impressed by the facts that your child reads.
 - Make connections to rocks and minerals that you have access to.
 - Encourage your child to talk about what they have read, answering simple questions that you ask.
 - Enjoy the jokes together, teasing out the meaning from the word-play if necessary.
 - Encourage them to use the pictures to develop their understanding as they read from the text and captions.
 - Give them lots of praise and encouragement!
- Look for examples of different types of rocks and minerals in your home. Talk about how they look and feel.

Pronunciation guide: geologist (gee-ol-uh-jist), igneous (ig-nee-us), metamorphic (met-uh-mor-fick), quartz (cortz), mica (my-cuh), pegmatite (peg-muh-tite), obsidian (ob-si-dee-un), basalt (ba-zalt), quartzite (cort-zite), pumice (pu-miss), geode (gee-ode)