



Geology Project



Did you find a rock at the park and don't know what kind it is? What about fossils? If you would like to learn more about rocks, minerals, and fossils, then dive into the geology project! Discover the types of minerals, rocks and fossils that can be found where you live.

Learn about geological formations across the state and in other states. Learn ways to preserve geological findings. Think about career opportunities in a geology field.

Starting Out *Beginner*

- Learn how the earth was formed and its three main parts.
- Learn the difference between a rock and a fossil.
- Collect, clean, identify, and label rocks, minerals, and fossils found in Kansas.
- Learn the types and impacts of erosion.

Learning More *Intermediate*

- Use different tests to identify minerals by hardness and color.
- Find out what rock types occur in Kansas.
- Learn how to identify fossils.
- Learn how mountains are formed.
- Learn to display and evaluate geology exhibits.

Expanding Horizons *Advanced*

- Discover the impact of glaciers.
- Read and use a topographic map.
- Measure formation thickness.
- Test to determine chemical properties of minerals.
- Locate sites on a plat map.
- Study how to prepare for geology careers.

Inspire Kids to Do

Explore

"I might like to do this."

Youth who explore a variety of interests before high school, through experiences like 4-H camps and educational events, can develop early interest in a career path and improve their academic performance.

Learn

"I can do this."

4-H project-based learning, guided by adult volunteers, improves youth understanding of skills and concepts, as well as their ability to problem-solve and collaborate.

Practice

"I'm interested in this."

Youth who have participated in sustained hands-on learning and engaged with professional mentors and volunteers before entering high school are more likely to explore studies and potential career paths.

Experience

"I will be this."

Real-world application is key — 91% of Kansas 4-H members have a plan for reaching their goals. Youth that have been active participants in hands-on learning, combined with strong decision-making skills, are more able to effectively navigate life.

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Expand Your Experiences!

Healthy Living

- Organize a geology field trip for your 4-H club.
- Prepare participants for the safety aspects of a geology fieldtrip – for example, bring sunscreen, water, insect repellent, and snacks, and watch out for snakes!
- Join the Kansas 4-H Geology Action team. Learn to work with others to plan and carry out a major event.

Science and Agriculture

- Learn how scientists use geology in their everyday work.
- Study the formation of different types of rocks and minerals.
- Explore which types of rocks, minerals, and fossils occur naturally in your area.
- Learn how the study of soils impacts farming in your area of the state.

Community Vitality

- Volunteer at your local museum.
- Research and share about a type of fossil at the local library.
- Arrange for a guest geologist to present to your club.
- Organize a geology field trip event for a local organization or your school.

Communication and the Arts

- Present a talk at your county 4-H club day event.
- Design a poster about the geology project.
- Tell your friends about the Kansas 4-H Geology Field Trip. Invite them to join you.

Career Development

- Attend the Kansas 4-H Geology Field Trip.
- Join the Kansas 4-H Geology Action Team.
- Serve as a Junior Project Leader.
- Volunteer to assist with judging at county or state events.
- Tour a geologic museum. Ask about careers and education.
- Visit the [geology department](#) at a local university.
- Shadow a geologist to learn about their work.

Local Contact Information

Resources and Events	Curriculum and Resources	4-H Record Keeping	Project Exhibit Ideas
<p>Participating in educational events and learning opportunities will expand your knowledge and skills in the project area. Contact your local K-State Research and Extension office for local opportunities.</p> <p>KS 4-H Geology Field Trip, held each June</p> <p>Kansas Geology – a website to help you identify your finds!</p> <p>Kansas Public Highway Collecting Locations</p> <p>Geology Box Checklist for a successful exhibit</p>	<p>Kansas 4-H Geology Leader's Notebook, S149</p> <p>Kansas 4-H Geology Project Page</p> <p>Geology Project Specimen Labels</p> <p>Exhibiting Geology Projects Scoresheet, MG18</p> <p>Lapidary Projects Scoresheet</p>	<p>Learning to keep accurate records is a life skill. The following forms can help you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Setting 4-H Project Goals (4H1100)• Kansas 4-H Record Keeping	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Create a specimen box with your collection.• Put together a notebook about your Geology Field Trip experience.• Make a display about rock formations or a specific type of fossil.• Design a display all about the animal or plant species that a specimen came from.• Take photos of your collecting experience and create a display encouraging others to join the project.

