



# 2nd Grade

## The Earth and Its Changes

*"One of the best field trips to support grade level standards and fun too!" - 2nd Grade Teacher*

### OVERVIEW

Students become earth scientists as they learn to distinguish rocks from minerals, compare soil types, and discover surprising uses of minerals. Students will also study erosion and excavate their very own fossil.

### COMPLIMENTARY SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

EARTH SCIENCE INVESTIGATORS: THE SEARCH FOR RAINBOW MOUNTAIN

Join Thomas the Paleontologist as he journeys to Rainbow Mountain. Along the way, Thomas thinks like a detective and discovers changes in the earth, how the earth's resources are useful to humans, and how to distinguish between rocks and minerals.

### STANDARDS

- Science Standards 3a, 3b, 3d, 3e, 4a
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.2.3 & 2.4
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.6

### HANDS-ON FIELD TRIP ACTIVITIES

- **ROCKS VS. MINERALS:** Students construct arguments from evidence to identify rocks vs. minerals based on their properties.
- **MINERALS AND THEIR USES:** Students actively engage in a story to understand how minerals play an important role in their everyday lives.
- **SOILS:** Students compare and contrast two distinct soil samples using magnifying glasses and observation skills.
- **ROCK SHAKING:** Students carry out investigations to simulate weathering and erosion of the earth's surface.
- **FOSSILS:** Students become paleontologists as they study fossil remains and excavate their very own shark tooth.

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SCHOOL PROGRAMS on THE RESERVE at RANCHO MISSION VIEJO

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Field trips and assemblies can be scheduled throughout the school year. For details and registration, please call 949.489.9778 or email Education Coordinator, Bonnie McQuiston at [bmcquiston@rmvreserve.org](mailto:bmcquiston@rmvreserve.org).

 **THE RESERVE**  
AT RANCHO MISSION VIEJO