



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 dive into hands-on explorations with soils, sand, clay and water. Students will study how earth's landforms are shaped, the many properties of rocks and minerals, and the surprising uses of earth's natural resources. Hiking highlights include views of Rainbow Mountain and a visit to Mother Oak, a 500 year-old oak tree.

COMPLIMENTARY SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

EARTH SCIENCE INVESTIGATORS: THE SEARCH FOR RAINBOW MOUNTAIN

Join Thomas the Geologist as he journeys to Rainbow Mountain. Along the way, Thomas thinks like a detective and discovers changes to the earth, how the earth's resources are useful to humans, and how to investigate the important properties of rocks and minerals.

STANDARDS

- NGSS PEs: 2-ESS1-1; 2-ESS2-1 - 3; 2-LS4-1
- 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

- **EVER-CHANGING EARTH:** Students sculpt model landforms, such as mountains, rivers and valleys, as they investigate the effects of weathering and erosion on the ever-changing earth.
- **RAINBOW MOUNTAIN ROCKS!:** Students explore with clay as they hike to see views of Rainbow Mountain, a former clay mine. Through an interactive matching game, students understand how everyday items come from the earth's natural resources.
- **ROCK INVESTIGATORS:** Students perform experiments with rocks and minerals to learn about their properties, including color, density and magnetism. Students also investigate fossil rocks and excavate their very own shark tooth.
- **SUPER SOILS!:** Along an interactive trail walk, students compare and contrast two distinct soil types and the plants that occur in each area. Students visit Mother Oak, a 500 year-old oak tree, as they determine the best soil type for this majestic tree.

SCHOOL PROGRAMS on THE RESERVE at RANCHO MISSION VIEJO

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.

 **THE RESERVE**
AT RANCHO MISSION VIEJO