Geology in Everyday Life

General Geology 1114

Dr. Wendi Williams

Angela Watson, Leigha Roberts, Lessli Rodriguez, Emily Morrow

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Introduction:

Our team project “Geology in Everyday Life” for NWACC Empacts consists of educating 5th grade elementary classes on a select group of minerals in a relevant manner that will encourage science literacy. We have developed a lesson plan with an accompanying PowerPoint presentation and brochure that a teacher can easily use for a 5th grade science class and that is also aligned with the Arkansas state framework. We have chosen the following minerals to show students how they are used in everyday life; Graphite, Calcite, Talc, Fluorite, Galena, Gypsum, Halite, Quartz, Apatite and Chalcopyrite. The PowerPoint presentation contains pictures of the ten minerals mentioned above in its rough, natural form as well as pictures of its transformed state of modern use in our everyday life. Also, the brochure outlines a brief visual of these minerals as well as our main goal that we intend to achieve with it. And, the lesson plan along with the student worksheet is a hands-on class activity that allows students to learn to identify these ten minerals and work with a team to research furthermore on one selected mineral. Through this project, we aim to meet the EMPACTS objectives such as Service to the Community, Curriculum/Course Objectives, Technology, Skills, Methodology and Expected Outcomes.

Service to the Community:

We plan to serve the community in the following manner. Our team’s project “Geology in Everyday Life” has been designed to allow Teachers in Elementary schools based nationwide to have access on the NWACC website (www.nwacc.edu) to our teaching materials such as the PowerPoint, Brochure, Lesson Plan and Student
Worksheet. Our team “The Teachers,” strongly believes every individual is both a teacher and student and understand that each moment is an opportunity to share a learning experience with others. We believe it’s important to provide effective teaching tools for the enhancement of young students. Henceforth, we took the initiative to create teaching materials that are free and easily accessible to teachers in the U.S. and even abroad.

**Curriculum/ Course Objectives:**

We achieved several goals outlined in this course through our work in this project. We learned and demonstrated in our lesson how science impacts values and how society affects science through our societies use of minerals. We used active learning skills and had opportunities to work as a team using group collaboration skills on research and writing as well as communication and problem solving skills. Also our course objective was to complete the science course to meet the general education requirement towards a physical science or non-science major. After completing this project and course, we now have acquired a deeper knowledge of the meaning of geology.

**Technology:**

For this project our team chose to develop a PowerPoint presentation. We also added a YouTube video and obtained pictures from various Internet sources listed on our references. We used Microsoft Word to develop our paper and brochure as well as the lesson plan and worksheet.
Skills:

The skills we have developed as a team have been learning to collaborate and share ideas, incorporating and compromising our individual ideas as well as our group ideas as a unit. Overall, “Geology in Everyday Life” has given us the opportunity to furthermore develop many skills such as interpersonal, communication, networking, research, writing, publishing and presentation skills. Our team has not only learned to have this project enrich our community but also ourselves.

Methodology:

The processes we used to complete this project were meeting as a team, creating a timeline for what exactly needed to be done and when, for this particular group project, Lessli Rodriguez developed the final paper, Emily Morrow created the PowerPoint presentation, Angela Watson prepared the lesson plan and student worksheet and Leigha Roberts made the brochure to use as a teaching tool and a visual aid for our presentation. In order to make sure we were all following the established process, we used our Blackboard assigned discussion links to post our progressing drafts and a flow of discussion through out its completion.

Expected Outcomes:

We will generate a useable lesson plan and student worksheet with a corresponding PowerPoint and brochure to be used in the classroom. We hope that these easy to use tools will promote and encourage science literacy. At the conclusion of the lesson students should have a better understanding of minerals and a hands on,
real life experience. We hope that teachers will enjoy teaching our material as much as we enjoyed creating it!
References


