

Rock Stars

This is an identification game played in small groups. There are various options, with different amounts of contact between individuals and groups.

You need for each team

- one star
- a set of 6 or more labels
- a set of 5 or more rocks

Plus

- for option 1 and 2 a paper bag per team
- for option 3 a large drawstring fabric bag or box with a hole to pull out samples without seeing them

At the end if covid security is required

- Paper and card materials are disposed of or quarantined before re-use
- Rock samples and fabric bag if used are quarantined &/or covid cleaned (ie washed with detergent and dried) before re-use

1. Minimal contact (most covid secure)

The labels are placed in a paper bag and the rock samples are laid out so everyone in the team can see them. Only 1 person handles the labels and another person handles the samples but they discuss or take it in turns to tell the sample handler which to choose.

- A label is taken from the bag and placed on one point of the star
- The matching rock is chosen placed by it
- This is repeated until all 5 points on the star are complete and then the team shouts “rock star”
- The results are checked and if necessary clues given so the team can correct any rock that is wrong.

The sample handler returns all the samples to the start position.

The label handler returns all the labels to the bag and gives it a good shake so that next time some of the 5 labels pulled from the bag are different.

The game is played several times until the children become confident and accurate in identifying the samples.

2. All members of a team handle their set of materials but there is no physical interaction between teams

The labels are placed in a paper bag and the rock samples are laid out so everyone in the team can see them. Taking it in turns, each member of the team

- Takes a label from the bag and places on one point of the star
- Chooses the matching rock and puts it by the label

- This is repeated by each team member in turn until all 5 points on the star are complete and then the team shouts “rock star”
- The results are checked and if necessary clues given so the team can correct any rock that is wrong.

Then a member of the team returns the rock samples to the start position and another puts all the labels to the bag and gives it a good shake so that next time some of the 5 labels pulled from the bag are different.

The game is played several times until the children become confident and accurate in identifying the samples.

3. Everyone may handle the same rock samples NOT ADVISED WHILE COVID CONTROLS IN PLACE

In this option choose just 5 types of rock sample and matching labels with one per team. The labels and rock samples are held centrally, on two tables a distance apart.

On one table place the labels face down on one table

On the other table place all the rock samples in a large fabric bag (or box with a hole to pull out samples without seeing the contents)

- The first members of each team comes and takes a label, returns to their team and places it on the point of the star.
- Then the next member of the team comes and takes a rock sample. If it matches the label they put it by it. If not they put at the side
- the next person takes another label – if it is not already on the star they put it on another point if it is the same they take it back to the label table and choose another (repeating until they get a label not yet on the star)
- Then the next member of the team comes and takes a rock sample. If it matches the label they put it by it. If not they put at the side
- This is repeated until the team has 5 different labels on the star and 5 samples.
- Then they swop duplicate rock samples, one at a time with other other teams until they have 5 different rock samples on the star. then the team shouts “rock star”
- The results are checked and if necessary clues given so the team can correct any rock that is wrong.

Blue Lias

Sandstone

White Lias

**Oolitic
Limestone**

Ironstone
(Great Tew)

Marble

Ironstone
(Hornton)

Rock with Fossil

Pebble

Granite

Slate

