



# Creation Lens

*Exploring the World, Discovering God*

*Grade Level: Grade 4*

*Title:*

## **Classification of Rocks & Church Structure**

*Denomination: Catholic*

*Lesson ID: ES-G4-04-CA*

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***Note: Web sites referenced in this lesson were valid at time of publication.***

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## EARTH SCIENCE MODULE – GRADE FOUR - CATHOLIC

### LESSON 4: Classification of Rocks by Color and the Structure of our Church.

#### **GENERAL CONCEPT: Classification of Rocks by Color and Classification of roles in the Church**

##### **SCIENCE LESSON CONCEPT**

Color is one property of rocks that can be used to classify them.

##### **GOAL OF SCIENCE LESSON**

Student will be able to sort and classify rocks in two groups: light in color and dark in color.

##### **OUTCOME EXPECTED**

Student will be able to appreciate the variety of rocks.

##### **MATERIALS NEEDED**

- Science Journal Page: ROCK COLORS
- Pen/pencil
- As assortment of rocks: light and dark

##### **RELIGION LESSON CONCEPT**

One way to study the church is through its structure or hierarchy.

##### **GOAL OF RELIGION LESSON**

Student will be able to see that the Church has a structure and that each person has a place in that organization

##### **OUTCOME EXPECTED**

Student will understand the role of the ordained in the life of the Church.

##### **MATERIALS NEEDED**

- Chart of Church Hierarchy and organization – See Methodology section
- Religion Notebook

## SCIENCE METHODOLOGY

- **DIVIDE** the rock assortment so that each group of students can examine and handle the rock specimens.
- **SAY:** Scientists use a toll called “classifying” to make some order of a group of objects like these rocks. They start with the simplest groupings: size, color, shape. We can easily see the size: small, medium, large.
- **ASK:** How else can we classify these rocks?
- **LET** each group of students come up with a way to classify the rocks.
- **REPORTS** from each group.
- **HAVE** every group classify by light and dark.
- **ASK:** Does everyone agree that the rocks are in the correct groups? Discuss.
- **SAY:** Light and Dark are relative terms. What you think is light, I might think is dark. So scientists use other properties of the rocks to classify them.

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- List of the duties of each level of the hierarchy on 10 signs
- Magnets for the back of chart and signs
- Picture of Pope, Your bishop, Your pastor

## RELIGION METHODOLOGY

- **POST THE CHART (BOLD AREAS)** of the hierarchy of the Church:
  - Jesus** – Head of the Church
  - Pope** – visible head of the Church on earth; elected by the College of Cardinals; Bishop of Rome
  - Cardinals** – appointed by the Pope; head up committees for the pope; elect the next Pope.
  - National Council of Bishops** - group of each country; studies problems and concerns within one country; writes decisions together.
  - Bishop** – appointed by the Pope; ordained by a Bishop; has authority over one territory; is the shepherd of the people of that area.
  - Pastor** – ordained by a Bishop; appointed by a bishop to be responsible for a portion of a diocese called a parish.
  - Priest** – ordained by a bishop; assigned to do some work in a diocese; assist a pastor; serve in the military as a chaplain; assist the bishop by head of diocesan office.
  - Transitional Deacon** – ordained a deacon by the bishop; still studying for the priesthood; assigned to help in a parish on the weekend.
  - Permanent Deacon** – ordained by the bishop; may be married; will not become a priest; assists a pastor in a

- **ASK:** How could the scientists classify these rocks? (how made, what they are made of, how durable)
- **POSIT:** Color is one property of an object that can be used to classify the object.

Parish or does other ministry assigned by the bishop.  
**Religious Men and Women** – live in a community; take at least three vows: poverty, chastity, and obedience; do whatever work their community assigns them.

**Laity** – single and married men and women who are called by God to bring Jesus' message to the world in their homes, their place of work, vacations – all aspects of their life.

- **ASK:** What do you think each one does in the Church? Accept answers.
- **PUT** the magnet backed signs – in no particular order on the board. These signs would be the areas following the bold titles above.
- **ASK** for some students to come and place the description by the correct title. Keep trying until it is correct.
- **SAY:** This is the structure or hierarchy of our Church.
- **ASK:** What is the name of the Pope? Write it by the title.
- **ASK:** Do we have a Cardinal in this Diocese? If so, write his name.
- **ASK:** What is the name for our National group of Bishops? (USCCB – United States Council of Catholic Bishops)
- **ASK:** Who is our Bishop? \_\_\_\_\_

- **ASK:** Do we have any auxiliary or helper Bishops?
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- **ASK:** Who is our Pastor? \_\_\_\_\_
  - **ASK:** Do we have any associate Pastors (Parochial Vicars)?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - **ASK:** Do we have a transitional deacon assigned?
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- **ASK:** Do we have any Permanent Deacons?
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- **ASK:** Do any religious men or women work or live in our parish?
- **ASK:** do we have any laity? Who? (all of us!)
- **IF** you have pictures of the Pope, Bishop, and Pastor on display in your school, take the student to see them. If you don't have pictures, it might be a good class project to write letters and ask for them.
- **POSIT:** Everyone is called by Jesus to do certain work in the Church. Everyone is needed and is important.

## RESOURCES, LINKS AND COMPUTER LESSONS

### **Science Links**

(Teacher) Rocks and color  
<http://www.sfscience.com>

(Student) Kid-friendly lesson on volcanoes.  
<http://volcano.oregonstate.edu/kids/index.html>

(Student) Kid-friendly site on classifying by color; click on address and then click in “to find out about rocks and minerals enter here; click on # 5.  
<http://www.rocksforkids.com>

### **Religious Links**

(Teacher and Student: Two pages of great information about Who’s Who in the Catholic Church!  
[www.beliefnet.com/story/102/story\\_10269\\_1.html](http://www.beliefnet.com/story/102/story_10269_1.html)

**KEY WORDS**  
**EARTH SCIENCE – GRADE FOUR - LESSON 4 - CA**



**CLASSIFICATION**  
**ROCKS**  
**COLOR**  
**PROPERTY**  
**LIGHT IN COLOR**  
**DARK IN COLOR**  
**SIZE**  
**CLASSIFYING**  
**SCIENTISTS**



**STRUCTURE**  
**HIERARCHY**  
**ORGANIZATION**  
**ORDAINED**  
**JESUS**  
**POPE**  
**CARDINALS**  
**BISHOP**  
**PASTOR**  
**DEACONS**  
**RELIGIOUS**  
**LAITY**

**KEY WORDS**  
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**CLASSIFICATION**

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