



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

KEY WORDS
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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

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