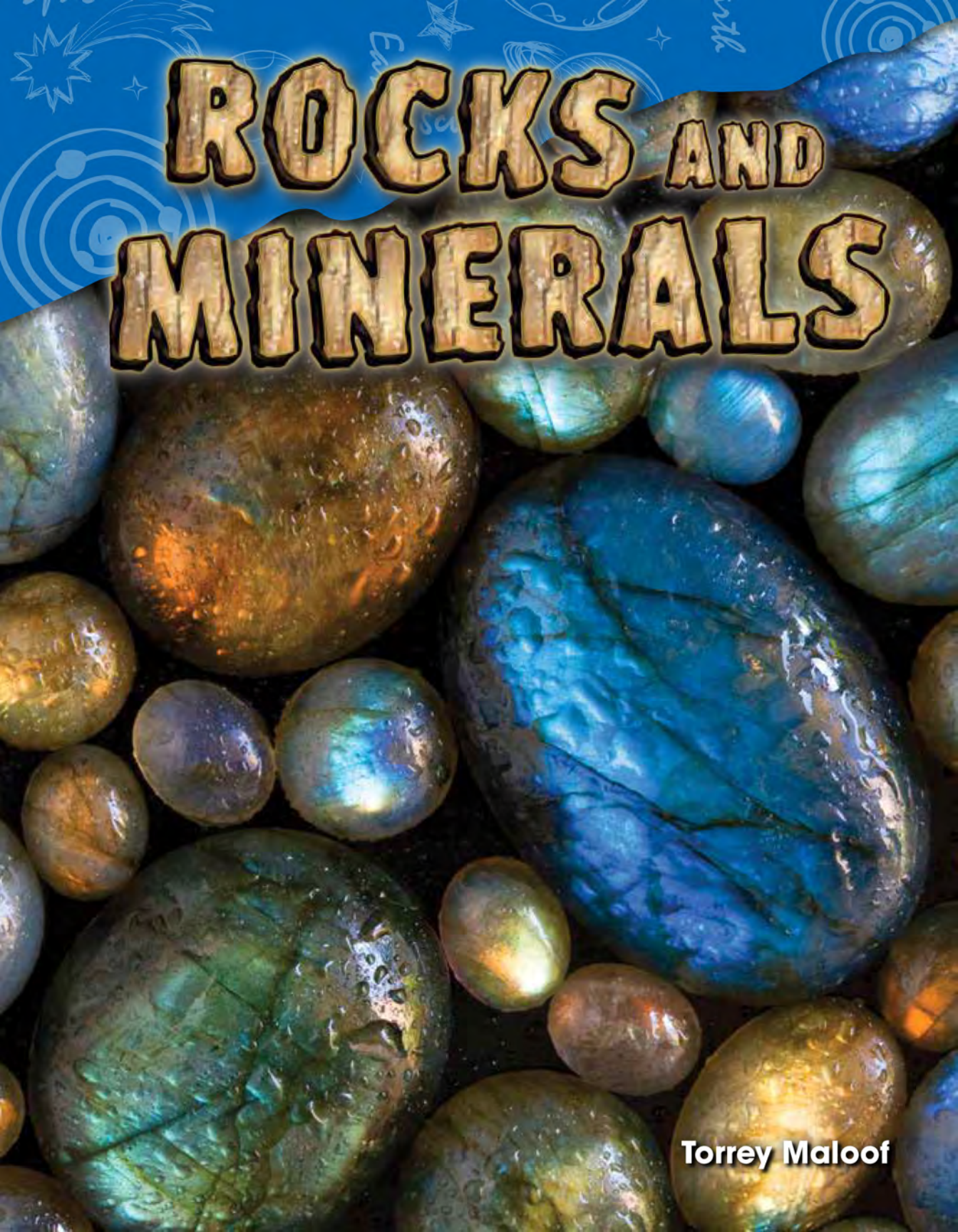
ROCKS AND MINERALS



Torrey Maloof

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Table of Contents

Almost Anywhere 4

Rock Types 6

The Rock Cycle. 20

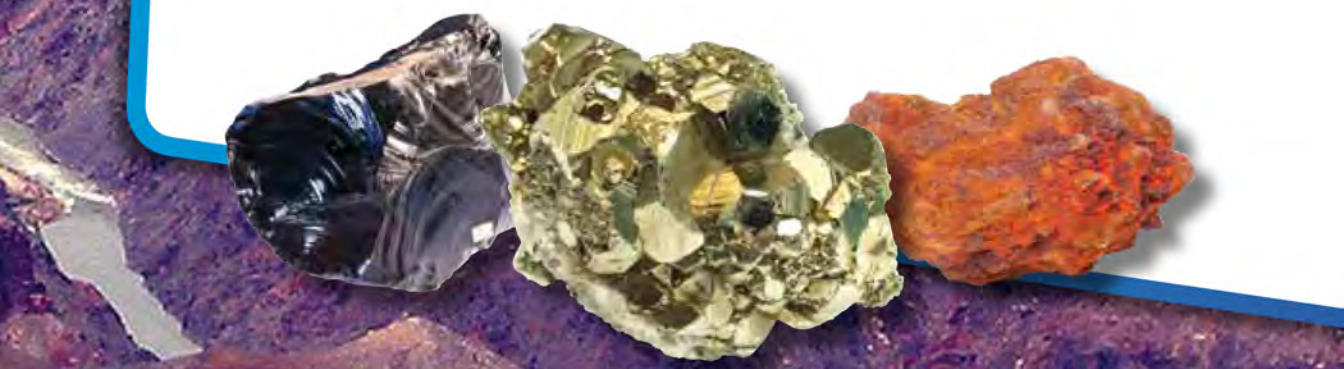
Rocking Resources 24

Let's Do Science! 28

Glossary. 30

Index 31

Your Turn! 32



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Almost Anywhere

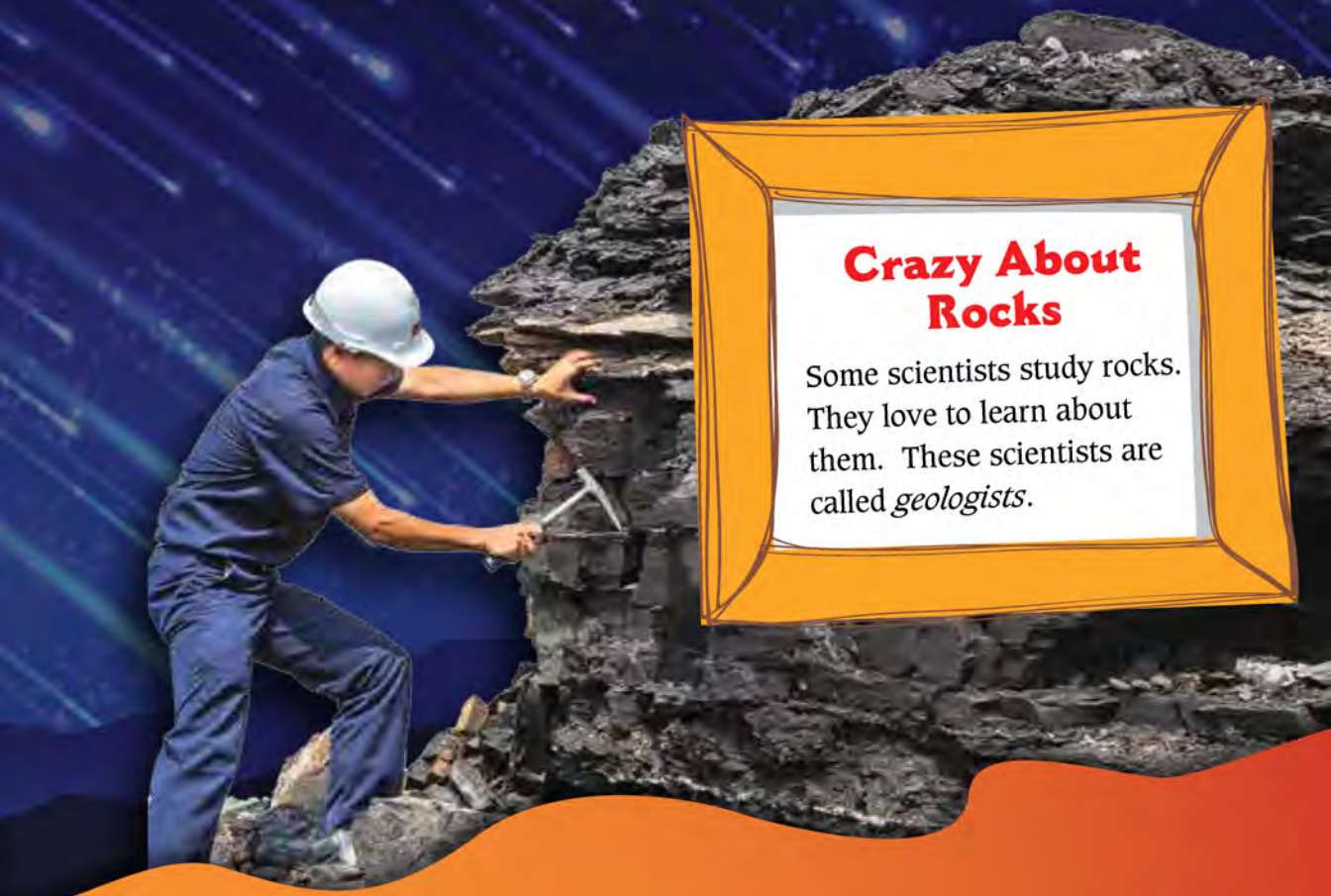
Look up, down, and all around! Almost anywhere you look, there are rocks. Earth itself is made of rock. There are even rocks in outer space. Mountains and beaches are made of rocks. Buildings and roads can be made of rocks, too.



Meteorites are rocks that have fallen to the ground from outer space.

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There are rocks that are young and rocks that are ancient. Some rocks are enormous, and some rocks are tiny. Certain rocks are tough and strong, while others are soft and delicate. Rocks can be really rough or really smooth. Rocks come in various shapes and colors. But all rocks have interesting stories to tell.



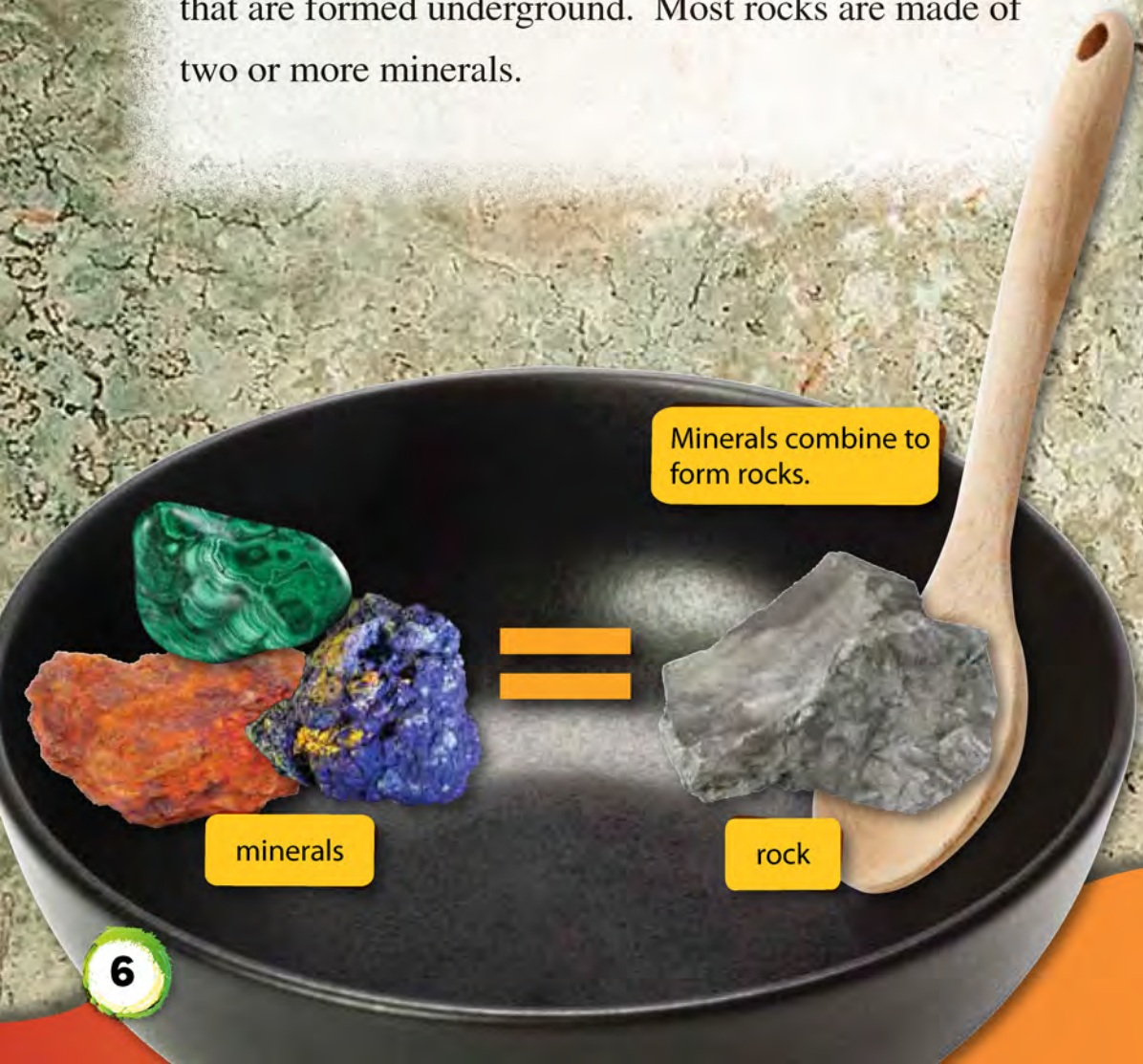
Crazy About Rocks

Some scientists study rocks. They love to learn about them. These scientists are called *geologists*.

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Rock Types

Have you ever baked a cake? To bake a cake, you need ingredients. You use things such as flour, sugar, and salt. Then, you mix them all together. The ingredients that make rocks are called **minerals**. Almost all rocks are made of minerals. Minerals are substances that are formed underground. Most rocks are made of two or more minerals.



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Cool Crystals

Each mineral has its own shape. These special shapes are called *crystals*.

There are three main types of rocks. Each type forms in a different way.

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Igneous Rocks

One type of rock is **igneous** (IG-nee-uhs) rock. The word *igneous* means "from fire." This is the perfect word to describe this type of rock. Igneous rocks form deep inside Earth. There, it's very hot. In fact, it's so hot that the rocks are liquid! This liquid rock is called **magma**.

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Slowly, the magma cools. Then, it turns into solid igneous rock. Granite is a common type of igneous rock. Sometimes, the magma cools underground. But other times, it makes it all the way to Earth's surface. When this happens, it makes for quite a volcanic eruption!

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Let's Do Science!

Most rocks are made from minerals. Sometimes the minerals form crystals. See for yourself!

What to Get

- ❍ 2 measuring spoons
- ❍ 2 plastic cups filled halfway with hot water
- ❍ magnifying glass
- ❍ marker
- ❍ table salt and Epsom salts

