



## Geology Crafts For Kids: 50 Nifty Projects to Explore the Marvels of Planet Earth

By Alan Anderson, Gwen Diehn, Terry Krautwurst

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Dig into the marvels of planet Earth with 50 nifty activities for kids about the spectrum of geologic phenomena including plate tectonics, continental drift, minerals, volcanoes, earthquakes, rocks, crystals, fossils, and more. “As much a craft book as it is a geology text....Enough general science material included...others have applications elsewhere in the curriculum....Safety warnings are included.”—*School Library Journal*.

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### **Editorial Review**

From School Library Journal

Grade 4-7. Although this title is as much a craft book as it is a geology text (LC assigns it to 551), it will be a boon to students seeking projects, and to teachers, nature counselors, and scout leaders as well. Enough general science material (curriculum coordinated, of course) is included to provide a base for the sometimes rather loosely related project. For example, a double-page spread (with photos and diagrams) on the layered makeup and internal heat of planet Earth is paired with a recipe for "Earth Balls" made of layers of tasty ingredients around a "molten" core of jam. Other projects are more scientific: making a seismograph after reading about earthquakes, for instance, or growing crystals in various solutions after a study of crystalline structure. Some are straight crafts (making a pebble trivet) and others have applications elsewhere in the curriculum (making adobe bricks?perfect for model pueblos or the Alamo). Safety warnings are included (along with a not-our-fault caveat) as are encouragements in the face of frustration ("Don't worry if you can't figure out..."). Clear, full-color photos depict finished products, wonders of nature, and a careful sex/ethnic balance in a bunch of clean-cut 10-13 year olds. While not as imaginative or thought-provoking as Linda Allison and David Katz's *Gee Wiz! How to Mix Art and Science* or the *Art of Thinking Scientifically* (Little, Brown, 1983), *Geology Crafts* is a useful, more focused compendium that presents information and certainly promotes manual dexterity. Patricia Manning, formerly at Eastchester Public Library, NY  
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