



SCOUTMASTER BUCKY

Geology Merit Badge Workbook

ScoutmasterBucky.com or ScoutmasterBucky@yahoo.com or 612-483-0665

Scouts participating in a Scoutmaster Bucky merit badge opportunity, whether online or in person, should consider using the Geology merit badge pamphlet for discovery and knowledge, along with the class preparation pages for clarifications, insights, and expectations. These resources are available here:

<https://scoutmasterbucky.com/merit-badges/geology/>

REQUIREMENTS 3, 4a1, 4a4, 4b5b, 4c5a, and 4c5c 6a REQUIRE COUNSELOR APPROVAL.

REQUIREMENTS 4a2, 4b4, 4c3b and 4c5b REQUIRES COUNSELOR ASSISTANCE.

REQUIREMENTS 4b5a, 4b5b, 4c5a, 4c5c, and 4d6d REQUIRE PARENT / GUARDIAN PERMISSION OR APPROVAL.

REQUIREMENT 1: Define geology.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 1: Discuss how geologists learn about rock formations.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 1: In geology, explain why the study of the present is important to understanding the past.

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 2: Pick three resources that can be extracted or mined from Earth for commercial use. Discuss with your counselor how each product is discovered and processed.

RESOURCE #1:

Resource:

How is this resource discovered:

How is this resource processed:

RESOURCE #2:

Resource:

How is this resource discovered:

How is this resource processed:



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RESOURCE #3:

Resource:

How is this resource discovered:

How is this resource processed:

REQUIREMENT 3: Review a geologic map of your area or an area approved by your counselor, and discuss the different rock types and estimated ages of rocks represented.

Consider using the Geology Merit Badge Pamphlet for preparation information

This requirement must be reviewed with your merit badge counselor.

BE PREPARED!

COUNSELOR APPROVAL: IS REQUIRED.

Counselor's Name

Phone or Email

Counselor's Signature

Date

approved

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 3: Determine whether the rocks are sedimentary, metamorphic, or igneous.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 3: Explain if the geologic map shows horizontal, folded, faulted, or intrusive rocks, and explain how you arrived at your conclusion.

Notes:



DO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING (4A, 4B, 4C, or 4D) FOR REQUIREMENT 4

Requirement 4a - Surface and Sedimentary Processes Option

REQUIREMENT 4a1: Conduct an experiment approved by your counselor that demonstrates how sediments settle from suspension in water.

Experiment:

COUNSELOR APPROVAL: IS REQUIRED.

Counselor's Name

Phone or Email

Counselor's Signature

Date *approved*

REQUIREMENT 4a1: Explain to your counselor what the exercise shows and why it is important.

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 4a2: Using topographical maps provided by your counselor, plot the stream gradients (different elevations divided by distance) for four different stream types (straight, meandering, dendritic, trellis).

Consider using the Geology Merit Badge Pamphlet for preparation information

This requirement must be reviewed with your merit badge counselor.

BE PREPARED!

REQUIREMENT 4a2: Explain which stream types (straight, meandering, dendritic, trellis) flow fastest and why, and which ones will carry larger grains of sediment and why.

STRAIGHT:

Flow:

Sediment:

MEANDERING:

Flow:

Sediment:



DENDRITIC:

Flow:

Sediment:

TERLLIS:

Flow:

Sediment:

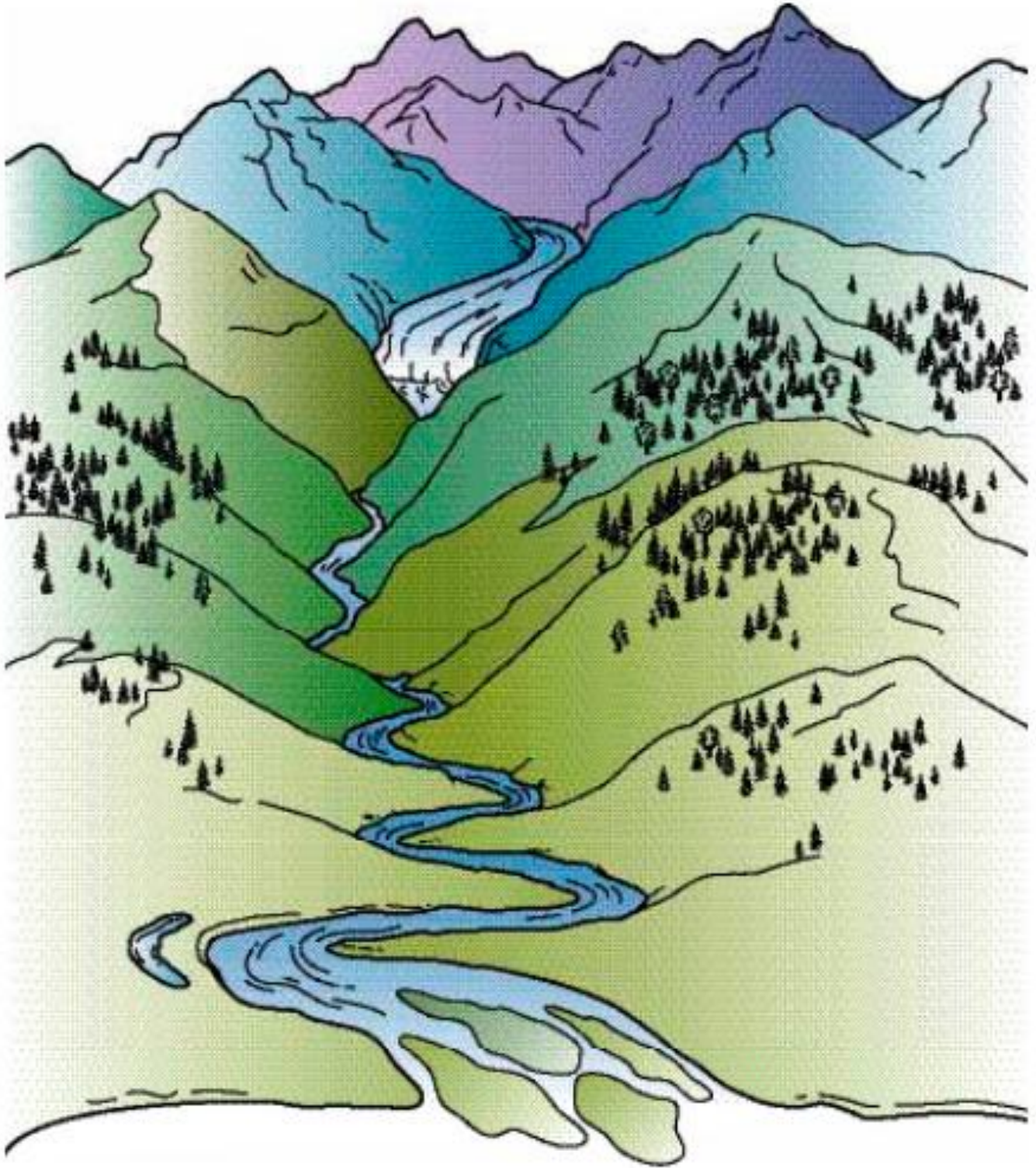


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REQUIREMENT 4a3: On a stream diagram, show areas where you will find the following features: cut bank, fill bank, point bar, medial channel bars, lake delta.





REQUIREMENT 5a3: Describe the relative sediment grain size found in each feature.

Cut Bank:

Fill Bank:

Point Bar:

Medial Channel Bars:

Lake Delta:



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REQUIREMENT 4a4: Conduct an experiment approved by your counselor that shows how some sedimentary material carried by water may be too small for you to see without a magnifier.

Consider using the Geology Merit Badge Pamphlet for preparation information

This requirement must be reviewed with your merit badge counselor.

BE PREPARED!

Experiment to be conducted:

COUNSELOR APPROVAL: IS REQUIRED.

Counselor's Name

Phone or Email

Counselor's Signature

Date *approved*

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 4a5: Visit a nearby stream. Find clues that show the direction of water flow, even if the water is missing. Record your observations in a notebook, and sketch those clues you observe. Discuss your observations with your counselor.

Be sure to bring your notebook with sketches to share with your merit badge counselor

Consider using the Geology Merit Badge Pamphlet for preparation information

This requirement must be reviewed with your merit badge counselor.

BE PREPARED!



Requirement 4b - Energy Resources Option

REQUIREMENT 4b1: List the top five Earth resources used to generate electricity in the United States.

Earth Resource #1:

Earth Resource #2:

Earth Resource #3:

Earth Resource #4:

Earth Resource #5:



REQUIREMENT 4b2: Discuss source rock, trap, and reservoir rock - the three components necessary for the occurrence of oil and gas underground.

Source Rock:

Trap:

Reservoir Rock:



REQUIREMENT 4b3: Explain how each of the following items is used in subsurface exploration to locate oil or gas: reflection seismic, electric well logs, stratigraphic correlation, offshore platform, geologic map, subsurface structure map, subsurface isopach map, and core samples and cutting samples.

Reflection Seismic:

Electric Well Logs:

Stratigraphic Correlation:

Offshore Platform:



Geologic Map:

Subsurface Structure Map:

Subsurface Isopach Map:

Core Samples and Cutting Samples:



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REQUIREMENT 4b4: Using at least 20 data points provided by your counselor, create a subsurface structure map.

Consider using the Geology Merit Badge Pamphlet for preparation information

This requirement must be reviewed with your merit badge counselor.

BE PREPARED!

REQUIREMENT 4b4: Use the subsurface structure map you created to explain how subsurface geology maps are used to find oil, gas, or coal resources.

Oil:

Gas:

Coal:



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DO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING (4B5A or 4B5B) FOR REQUIREMENT 4B5

REQUIREMENT 4b5a: Make a display or presentation showing how oil and gas or coal is found, extracted, and processed. You may use maps, books, articles from periodicals, and research found on the internet (with your parent or guardian's permission). Share the display with your counselor or a small group (such as your class at school) in a five-minute presentation.

Be sure to bring your display or presentation to share with your merit badge counselor
Consider using the Geology Merit Badge Pamphlet for preparation information

This requirement must be reviewed with your merit badge counselor.

BE PREPARED!

PARENT/GUARDIAN PERMISSION: IS REQUIRED.

Parent's / Guardian's Name

Phone or Email

Parent's / Guardian's Signature

Date *permission*

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 4b5b: With your parent or guardian's and counselor's permission and assistance, arrange for a visit to an operating drilling rig. While there, talk with a geologist and ask to see what the geologist does onsite. Ask to see cutting samples taken at the site.

Site Name and Location:

Geologist's Name you met with:

Date and Time of Visit:

PARENT/GUARDIAN APPROVAL: IS REQUIRED.

Parent's / Guardian's Name

Phone or Email

Parent's / Guardian's Signature

Date *approved*

COUNSELOR APPROVAL: IS REQUIRED.

Counselor's Name

Phone or Email

Counselor's Signature

Date *approved*

Notes:



Requirement 4c - Mineral Resources Option

REQUIREMENT 4c1: Define rock.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 5c1: Discuss the three classes of rocks including their origin and characteristics.

CLASS #1:

Name:

Origin:

Characteristics:



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CLASS #2:

Name:

Origin:

Characteristics:

CLASS #3:

Name:

Origin:

Characteristics:



REQUIREMENT 4c2: Define mineral.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 4c2: Discuss the origin of minerals.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 4c2: Discuss the chemical composition of minerals.

Notes:



REQUIREMENT 4c2: Discuss the identification properties, including hardness, specific gravity, color, streak, cleavage, luster, and crystal form.

Hardness:

Specific Gravity:

Color:

Streak:



Cleavage:

Luster:

Crystal Form:

Notes:



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DO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING (4C3A or 4C3B) FOR REQUIREMENT 4C3

REQUIREMENT 4c3a: Collect 10 different rocks or minerals. Record in a notebook where you obtained (found, bought, traded) each one. Label each specimen, identify its class and origin, determine its chemical composition, and list its physical properties. Share your collection with your counselor.

Be sure to bring your collected rocks or minerals and notebook to share with your counselor
Consider using the Geology Merit Badge Pamphlet for preparation information
This requirement must be reviewed with your merit badge counselor.

BE PREPARED!

REQUIREMENT 4c3b: With your counselor's assistance, identify 15 different rocks and minerals. List the name of each specimen, tell whether it is a rock or mineral, and give the name of its class (if it is a rock) or list its identifying physical properties (if it is a mineral).

Consider using the Geology Merit Badge Pamphlet for preparation information
This requirement must be reviewed with your merit badge counselor.

BE PREPARED!

Name	Rock or Mineral	Class (rock) or Identifying Physical properties (mineral)
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		



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REQUIREMENT 4c4: List three of the most common road building materials used in your area. Explain how each material is produced and how each is used in road building.

MATERIAL #1:

Name:

Produced:

Used:

MATERIAL #2:

Name:

Produced:

Used:



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MATERIAL #3:

Name:

Produced:

Used:

Notes:



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DO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING (5C5A, 5C5B, or 5C5C) FOR REQUIREMENT 5C5

REQUIREMENT 4c5a: With your parent or guardian's and counselor's approval, visit an active mining site, quarry, or sand and gravel pit.

Active Mining Location to Visit:

PARENT/GUARDIAN APPROVAL: IS REQUIRED.

Parent's / Guardian's Name

Phone or Email

Parent's / Guardian's Signature

Date *approved*

COUNSELOR APPROVAL: IS REQUIRED.

Counselor's Name

Phone or Email

Counselor's Signature

Date *approved*

REQUIREMENT 4c5a: Tell your counselor what you learned about the resources extracted from this location and how these resources are used by society.

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 4c5b: With your counselor, choose two examples of rocks and two examples of minerals. Discuss the mining of these materials and describe how each is used by society.

ROCK #1 SELECTED WITH YOUR COUNSELOR:

Name:

Mining:

Used:

ROCK #2 SELECTED WITH YOUR COUNSELOR:

Name:

Mining:

Used:



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MINERAL #1 SELECTED WITH YOUR COUNSELOR:

Name:

Mining:

Used:

MINERAL #2 SELECTED WITH YOUR COUNSELOR:

Name:

Mining:

Used:



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REQUIREMENT 4c5c: With your parent or guardian's and counselor's approval, visit the office of a civil engineer.

Civil Engineer and Office Location to Visit:

PARENT / GUARDIAN APPROVAL: IS REQUIRED.

Parent's / Guardian's Name

Phone or Email

Parent's / Guardian's Signature

Date *approved*

COUNSELOR APPROVAL: IS REQUIRED.

Counselor's Name

Phone or Email

Counselor's Signature

Date *approved*

REQUIREMENT 4c5c: Learn how geology is used in construction. Discuss what you learned with your counselor.

Notes:



Requirement 4d - Earth History Option

REQUIREMENT 4d1: Create a chart showing suggested geological eras and periods. Determine which period the rocks in your region might have been formed.



REQUIREMENT 4d2: Explain the theory of plate tectonics.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 4d2: Make a chart explaining, or discuss with your counselor, how the processes of plate tectonics work.

Notes:



REQUIREMENT 4d2: Discuss how plate tectonics determines the distribution of most of the Earth's volcanoes, earthquakes, and mountain belts.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 4d3: Explain to your counselor the processes of burial and fossilization.

Notes:



REQUIREMENT 4d3: Discuss the concept of extinction.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 4d4: Explain to your counselor how fossils provide information about ancient life, environment, climate, and geography.

Ancient Life:



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Environment:

Climate:

Geography:



REQUIREMENT 4d4: Discuss the following terms and explain how animals from each habitat obtain food: benthonic, pelagic, littoral, lacustrine, open marine, brackish, fluvial, eolian, protected reef.

BENTHONIC:

Definition / Meaning:

How animals obtained food in this habitat:

PELAGIC:

Definition / Meaning:

How animals obtained food in this habitat:

LITTORAL:

Definition / Meaning:

How animals obtained food in this habitat:



LACUSTRINE:

Definition / Meaning:

How animals obtained food in this habitat:

OPEN MARINE:

Definition / Meaning:

How animals obtained food in this habitat:

BRACKISH:

Definition / Meaning:

How animals obtained food in this habitat:



FLUVIAL:

Definition / Meaning:

How animals obtained food in this habitat:

EOLIAN:

Definition / Meaning:

How animals obtained food in this habitat:

PROTECTED REEF:

Definition / Meaning:

How animals obtained food in this habitat:



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REQUIREMENT 4d5: Collect 10 different fossil plants or animals OR (with your counselor's assistance) identify 15 different fossil plants or animals. Record in a notebook where you obtained (found, bought, traded) each one. Classify each specimen to the best of your ability, and explain how each one might have survived and obtained food. Tell what else you can learn from these fossils.

Be sure to bring your collected fossils and notebook to share with your counselor
Consider using the Geology Merit Badge Pamphlet for preparation information

This requirement must be reviewed with your merit badge counselor.

BE PREPARED!

Notes:



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DO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING (4D6A, 4D6B, 4D6C, or 4D6D) FOR REQUIREMENT 4D6

REQUIREMENT 4d6a: Visit a science museum or the geology department of a local university that has fossils on display. With your parent or guardian's and counselor's approval, before you go, make an appointment with a curator or guide who can show you how the fossils are preserved and prepared for display.

Place to Visit:

PARENT/GUARDIAN APPROVAL: IS REQUIRED.

Parent's / Guardian's Name

Phone or Email

Parent's / Guardian's Signature

Date *approved*

COUNSELOR APPROVAL: IS REQUIRED.

Counselor's Name

Phone or Email

Counselor's Signature

Date *approved*

Place to Visit:

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 4d6b: Visit a structure in your area that was built using fossiliferous rocks. Determine what kind of rock was used and tell your counselor the kinds of fossil evidence you found there.

Place and Location to Visit:

Rock Used:

Fossil Evidence:



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REQUIREMENT 4d6c: Visit a rock outcrop that contains fossils. Determine what kind of rock contains the fossils, and tell your counselor the kinds of fossil evidence you found at the outcrop.

Place and Location to Visit:

Rock that fossils are contained in:

Fossil Evidence:

REQUIREMENT 4d6d: Prepare a display or presentation on your state fossil. Include an image of the fossil, the age of the fossil, and its classification. You may use maps, books, articles from periodicals, and research found on the internet (with your parent or guardian's permission). Share the display with your counselor or a small group (such as your class at school). If your state does not have a state fossil, you may select a state fossil from a neighboring state.

Consider using the Geology Merit Badge Pamphlet for preparation information
Be sure to bring your display, or evidence of, to share with your merit badge counselor

This requirement must be reviewed with your merit badge counselor.

BE PREPARED!

PARENT/GUARDIAN PERMISSION: IS REQUIRED.

Parent's / Guardian's Name

Phone or Email

Parent's / Guardian's Signature

Date

permission



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State	Age	Common name	Binomial nomenclature
Alabama	Eocene	Basilosaurus whale	<i>Basilosaurus cetoides</i>
Alaska	Pleistocene	Woolly Mammoth	<i>Mammuthus primigenius</i>
Arizona	Triassic	petrified wood	<i>Araucarioxylon arizonicum</i>
Arkansas	N/A	N/A	N/A
California	Pleistocene	Saber-toothed cat	<i>Smilodon fatalis</i>
Colorado	Jurassic	Stegosaurus	<i>Stegosaurus stenops</i>
Connecticut	Jurassic	dinosaur tracks	<i>Eubrontes giganteus</i>
Delaware	Cretaceous	Belemnite	<i>Belemnitella americana</i>
Washington, D.C.	Cretaceous	Capitalsaurus	<i>nomen nudum only</i>
Florida	Oligocene - Miocene	agatized coral	<i>Cnidaria, Anthozoa</i>
Georgia	Cretaceous - Miocene	shark tooth	undetermined
Hawaii	N/A	N/A	N/A
Idaho	Pliocene	Hagerman horse	<i>Equus simplicidens</i>
Illinois	Pennsylvanian	Tully Monster	<i>Tullimonstrum gregarium</i>
Indiana	Pleistocene	Jefferson's ground sloth	<i>Megalonyx jeffersonii</i>
Iowa	N/A	N/A	N/A
Kansas	Cretaceous	Flying reptile	<i>Pteranodon</i>
Kentucky	Mississippian	brachiopod	undetermined
Louisiana	Oligocene	petrified palmwood	<i>Palmoxyton</i>
Maine	Devonian	Pertica plant	<i>Pertica quadrifaria</i>
Maryland	Miocene	murex snail / gastropod	<i>Ecphora gardnerae gardnerae</i>
Massachusetts	Jurassic	dinosaur tracks	undetermined
Michigan	Pliocene - Pleistocene	American mastodon	<i>Mammut americanum</i>
Minnesota	Pleistocene	Giant Beaver	<i>Castoroides ohioensis</i>
Mississippi	Eocene	Basilosaurus and Zygorhiza whales	<i>Basilosaurus cetoides</i> <i>Zygorhiza kochii</i>
Missouri	Pennsylvanian	Sea lily	<i>Delocrinus missouriensis</i>



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State	Age	Common name	Binomial nomenclature
Montana	Cretaceous	Duck-billed dinosaur	<i>Maiasaura peeblesorum</i>
Nebraska	Pleistocene	Woolly Mammoth Columbian Mammoth Imperial Mammoth	<i>Mammuthus primigenius</i> <i>Mammuthus columbi</i> <i>Mammuthus imperator</i>
Nevada	Triassic	Shonisaurus	<i>Shonisaurus popularis</i>
New Hampshire	N/A	N/A	N/A
New Jersey	Cretaceous	duck-billed dinosaur	<i>Hadrosaurus foulkii</i>
New Mexico	Triassic	Coelophysis	<i>Coelophysis bauri</i>
New York	Silurian	sea scorpion	<i>Eurypterus remipes</i>
North Carolina	Oligocene - Pleistocene	Megalodon Shark tooth	undetermined
North Dakota	Paleocene	shipworm-bored petrified wood	<i>Teredo</i> petrified wood
Ohio	Ordovician	trilobite	<i>Isotelus maximus</i>
Oklahoma	Jurassic	Saurophaganax	<i>Saurophaganax maximus</i>
Oregon	Eocene	Dawn redwood	<i>Metasequoia occidentalis</i>
Pennsylvania	Devonian	trilobite	<i>Phacops rana</i>
Rhode Island	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Carolina	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Dakota	Cretaceous	Triceratops	<i>Triceratops horridus</i>
Tennessee	Cretaceous	bivalve	<i>Pterotrigonia thoracica</i>
Texas	Cretaceous	Pleurocoelus	<i>Pleurocoelus nanus</i>
Utah	Jurassic	Allosaurus	<i>Allosaurus fragilis</i>
Vermont	Pleistocene	Beluga whale	<i>Delphinapterus leucas</i>
Virginia	Miocene - Pliocene	scallop	<i>Chesapecten jeffersonius</i>
Washington	Pleistocene	Columbian Mammoth	<i>Mammuthus columbi</i>
West Virginia	Pleistocene	Jefferson's ground sloth	<i>Megalonyx jeffersonii</i>
Wisconsin	Ordovician - Silurian	trilobite	<i>Calymene celebra</i>
Wyoming	Eocene	Knightia	<i>Knightia</i>

This list is not meant to be complete and may not reflect all current or variable fossils for each state

N/A simply implies either unknown or unofficial / proposed may exist



REQUIREMENT 5a: Discuss with your counselor the importance of the Leave No Trace Seven Principles as they relate to the study of geology.

THE 7 PRINCIPLES
of Leave No Trace

1. Plan Ahead & Prepare
2. Travel & Camp on Durable Surfaces
3. Dispose of Waste Properly
4. Leave What You Find
5. Minimize Campfire Impacts
6. Respect Wildlife
7. Be Considerate of Other Visitors

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 5a: Discuss with your counselor the importance of the Outdoor Code as they relate to the study of geology.

Outdoor Code

As an American, I will do my best to-

- Be Clean in my outdoor manners,
- Be Careful with fire,
- Be Considerate in the outdoors, and
- Be Conservation-minded

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 5b: Explain how you practiced the Leave No Trace Seven Principles and the Outdoor Code while traveling in natural areas and while collecting rock and fossil specimens for this merit badge.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 6a: Explore careers related to this merit badge. Research one career to learn about the training and education needed, costs, job prospects, salary, job duties, and career advancement. Your research methods may include—with your parent or guardian's permission—an internet or library search, an interview with a professional in the field, or a visit to a location where people in this career work.

Selected Career Opportunity:

PARENT / GUARDIAN PERMISSION: IS REQUIRED.

Parent's / Guardian's Name

Phone or Email

Parent's / Guardian's Signature

Date *permission*

Training Requirements:



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Education Requirements:

Costs:

Job Prospects:

Salary:

Job Duties:

Career Advancement:



REQUIREMENT 6a: Discuss with your counselor both your findings and what about this profession might make it an interesting career.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 6b: Explore how you could use knowledge and skills from this merit badge to pursue a hobby or healthy lifestyle.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 6b: Research any training needed, expenses, and organizations that promote or support it. Discuss with your counselor what short-term and long-term goals you might have if you pursued this.

Training:



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Expenses:

Organizations:

REQUIREMENT 6b: Discuss with your counselor what short-term and long-term goals you might have if you pursued this.

Short-Term Goals:

Long-Term Goals: