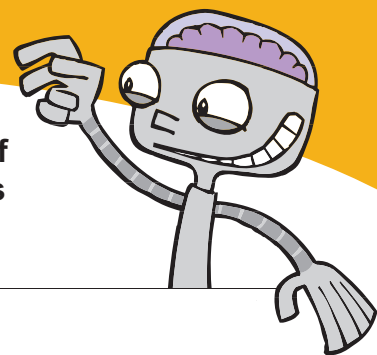


# SANDY SAMPLES



Sand grains can be made from rocks, minerals, or even parts of animals, like coral. Sand comes in many different shapes, sizes and colors. What can you learn about a place from its sand?

## WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- One or more handfuls of sand (from different places like a lake, river, or ocean beach)
- Small plastic bags or containers
- A magnifying glass
- Crayons

## WHAT TO DO

**1** Put one handful of sand from each place in its own plastic bag or container. Be sure to seal the bags or close the containers tightly.

**2** Compare your sand samples. How are they different? How are they similar?

**3** Draw a picture of each sand sample. Use crayons to show the sand's colors.

Sand from... \_\_\_\_\_

Looks like... \_\_\_\_\_

Sand from... \_\_\_\_\_

Looks like... \_\_\_\_\_

Sand from... \_\_\_\_\_

Looks like... \_\_\_\_\_

**ACTIVITY CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE (PAGE 1 OF 2)**

This activity was modified and adapted from the *On Sandy Shores Teacher's Guide* published by LHS Great Explorations in Math and Science (GEMS).

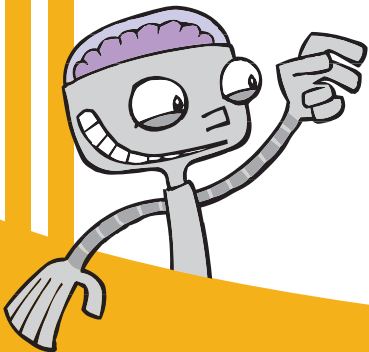
# SANDY SAMPLES (ACTIVITY CONTINUED)

**4** Rub the sand sample in your hands. Is it smooth or rough?

**5** Look through the magnifying glass to see how big the grains of sand are. Are all the grains in one sample the same size?

**6** Check for other things in the sand like tiny pieces of wood, plastic, or shells.

**7** Why do you think these sand samples might be different from each other?



## DID YOU KNOW?

- Dark-colored sand is often from volcanic rock. Light-colored sand may come from animal shells or coral.
- Animals known as sand dollars eat sand and hold it in their gut. The weight of the sand holds the animals down so they don't float away!

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