Teacher Lesson 10: Exploring Materials

Next Generation Science Standard

Grade 5. Matter and its Interactions

5-PS1-3. Make observations and measurements to identify materials based on their properties. [Clarification Statement: Examples of materials to be identified could include baking soda and other powders, metals, minerals, and liquids. Examples of properties could include color, hardness, reflectivity, electrical conductivity, thermal conductivity, response to magnetic forces, and solubility; density is not intended as an identifiable property.]

Find items for students to look at, or have them collect items such as the following:

- Different types of fabric
- Different types of paper
- Different coins
- Different powdery substances
- Different types of metal
- Rocks and minerals
- Something reflective

How are they the same? How are they different? How would they describe each one?

Have students study these objects using Flexi-Scope. They can look at the color, thickness, hardness, and other properties. They can note their observations in their Flexi-Scope Journal.



section of a painted block of wood from Ecuador