

# Writing about Rocks

## Summary

Students will summarize their knowledge of rock types by writing a warrant and staking a claim for an engineering decision on a building.

## Time Frame

1 class periods of 60 minutes each

## Group Size

Small Groups

## Materials

- short PowerPoint with pictures of local building made of stone or with stone facings
- paper and pencil or computer to write with
- [student worksheet](#)  
(attached)
- [sample warrant](#)  
(attached)

## Background for Teachers

Common Core Literacy Standards:

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RST.6-8.1 Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of science and technical texts.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RST.6-8.8 Distinguish among facts, reasoned judgment based on research findings, and speculation in a text.

## Instructional Procedures

- Show the slides and discuss how widely rock is used in buildings.
- Explain that they will work in groups (2 or 3 students is best) to be a "company" making a proposal to build a building or building facing. They need to choose the building material and support their claim with evidence and use vocabulary words from their rock unit.
- Allow students time to work and compose the final draft does not need to be more than a claim statement, 3 supporting facts and a summary.
- Ask groups to share their work with each other or with the class.

## Assessment Plan

### Scoring Guide

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1. A claim is clearly stated.....4
2. Supporting statements are facts not opinions.....4
3. Core vocabulary words are used.....4
4. Summary statement convincingly "sells" the proposal.....4

## Bibliography

Lesson Design by Jordan School District Teachers and Staff.

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[Utah LessonPlans](#)