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Family Reading Guide for "I, Rock: A Geology Tale"

Conversation starters for parents and children

Getting Started

What This Book Is About

"I, Rock: A Geology Tale" follows a single rock as it narrates its own dramatic journey through Earth's history — from its beginnings beneath the crust, through a volcanic eruption, storms, earthquakes, dinosaur encounters, and deep-sea adventures, all the way to the bottom of a student's shoe. Along the way, readers learn about real geological processes through a story full of humor and personality.

Key Themes Your Child Will Encounter:

- **Earth's long history:** Rock's journey spans an enormous span of geological time
- **Geological processes:** The book introduces volcanic activity, erosion, and sedimentation through storytelling
- **Science with humor:** The narrator's voice makes complex science content approachable and fun
- **Everything has a history:** Even an ordinary rock has traveled through an extraordinary journey

Note for Parents: This is a fun, humor-filled nonfiction picture book with no difficult content — an engaging way to introduce your child to basic geology and Earth science concepts.

Discussion Questions

About Rock's Journey

- Where does Rock's story begin, and where does it end?
- What was the most exciting event in Rock's journey?
- How does Rock's personality make the science easier to understand?

About Geology and Earth Science

- What is a volcano, and how did it change Rock's journey?
- How do storms, earthquakes, and water change rocks over time?
- What do you think rocks can teach scientists about Earth's history?

Conversation Starters

- If you could ask a rock about its history, what would you want to know?
- What's the most interesting rock or mineral you've ever seen?
- Have you ever found a rock somewhere unexpected, like Rock ends up at the bottom of a shoe?
- What do you think Earth looked like millions of years ago?

Discussion Activities

Exploring Geology Together

- Go on a family rock hunt in your yard or a local park
- Look up pictures of different rock types and guess how they might have formed
- Talk about a local landform (mountain, river, coastline) and how it might have changed over time



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Science and Storytelling

- Discuss: "Why might telling a science story from an object's point of view make it more memorable?"
- Try writing a short story from the point of view of another everyday object

Conversation Tips for Parents

Making Science Fun at Home

- Encourage curiosity about the natural world during walks or trips outdoors
- Ask open-ended questions like "How do you think that happened?" when you see interesting rocks or landforms
- Celebrate silly or creative connections your child makes between science and stories

Questions by Reading Level

Accessible Entry Points (for any reader)

- Where does Rock's story begin?
- What are some of the big events in Rock's journey?
- Where does Rock end up at the end of the book?

Deeper Analytical Questions

- How does Rock's journey show us the connection between different geological processes?
- Why might scientists study rocks to learn about Earth's history?
- How does the author's choice to use a first-person narrator change how we experience the science content?

Activity Ideas

Science and Creative Projects

- Create a comic strip showing Rock's journey from underground to a shoe
- Start a family rock collection and research where each rock might have come from
- Write and illustrate a short story from the point of view of a different natural object (a raindrop, a leaf, a grain of sand)

"I, Rock: A Geology Tale" turns billions of years of Earth's history into a fun, memorable story told from an unexpected point of view. Use it to spark curiosity about geology, encourage outdoor exploration, and show your child that even science facts can be full of humor and adventure.