Rock Cycle
4th grade

Overview
Students will understand the rock cycle and rock formation by learning some characteristics of igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic rocks. They will practice using their knowledge by sorting some rocks into the appropriate categories. Core sampling gives students the hands-on knowledge of rock layering.

Vocabulary
• *Igneous rock* - relating to or involving volcanic processes
• *Metamorphic rock* - denoting rock that has undergone transformation by heat, pressure, or other natural agencies, e.g., in the folding of strata or the nearby intrusion of igneous rocks
• *Sedimentary rock* - that has formed from sediment deposited by water or air.

NM Science Standards Addressed
2-3-2-1 Know that the properties of rocks and minerals reflect the processes that shaped them (i.e., igneous, metamorphic, and sedimentary rocks).

CCSS Language Arts Standards Addressed
SL.4.1 Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 4 topics and texts, building on others’ ideas and expressing their own clearly.
SL.4.1.B Follow agreed-upon rules for discussions and carry out assigned roles.
SL.4.1.C Pose and respond to specific questions to clarify or follow up on information, and make comments that contribute to the discussion and link to the remarks of others.
SL.4.1.D Review the key ideas expressed and explain their own ideas and understanding in light of the discussion.

Next Generation Science Standards Addressed
4-ESS1-1 Identify evidence from patterns in rock formations and fossils in rock layers to support an explanation for changes in a landscape over time.