

Why some stones are more valuable than others - a story about time management

1	Overall aims: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraging construction games with the use of rocks - making slime out of glue and pebbles, building castles and stone buildings • Reflection on the values in human life - a philosophical story about time management • Stimulating children's creativity
2	Vocabulary - keywords hierarchy of values, important - less important
3	Sustainable abilities developed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-awareness competency • Normative competency • Critical thinking competency • Anticipatory competency • Collaborative competency
4	Pillars of sustainability included <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • socio-cultural
5	STEAM domains T, E, A, M
6	Teaching methodologies/activity outline Introduction: The teacher asks the children what is most important in their lives? What they would not be able to live without - as they respond, the teacher sticks drawings or inscriptions illustrating basic values to large stones, e.g. family; home; friendship; science; security, homeland; peace, justice, etc.



Main part:

A philosophical story about managing time and values.

1. The teacher puts stones with the names of values written down into a large glass (transparent) vase and asks: Is the vessel full? (the size of the vessel should be selected so that large stones symbolizing the values seemingly fill the vessel)
2. Then the teacher sprinkles tiny pebbles (semolina for the aquarium) into the vessel and asks again: Is the vessel full? (we do not comment on children's answers)
3. At the end, the teacher puts the previously prepared sand into the vessel and asks again: Is the vessel full now? What does this story teach us? What can tiny pebbles symbolize? What can sand be?
4. What happens if we reverse the order in which we put the stones into the vessel?

Teacher video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bQL37ZvTrHg>

Summary:

Searching for treasures in nature (team work) - children receive work cards with drawing marked items that need to be found in the kindergarten garden (note: we do not pick up or destroy plants, we only collect what is already on the ground), e.g. <https://www.ekokalendar.pl/wp-content/uploads/pakiet-04-22-światowy-dzień-ziemi-poszukaj-skarbów.pdf>

Find:

- something you could love
- something wet
- something yellow
- something that starts with the letter K.
- something that could be a dwarf's house
- something prickly
- something rough
- something to play on
- something that resembles you / is similar to you

Each team can get the same worksheet (then we compare) or a different one.

In the version for younger children (3-year-olds), you can use simpler classification criteria: <https://www.ekokalendar.pl/wp-content/uploads/pakiet-04-22-światowy-dzień-ziemi-skarby-przyrody.pdf>



Other plays with stones - according to the teacher's choice:

- Stone Slime: <https://leftbraincraftbrain.com/buildable-rock-slime/>
- Personal analogy: Imagine you are a grain of sand (salt crystal ... etc). How are you? What are you doing? Where are you located - draw and tell your story.
- Create unusual animals (fairy-tale creatures) from colored stones. Children color the collected stones in any colors and leave them to dry. And then from colorful stones they create unusual animals (by adding eyes and flexible construction wires. Made animals can be used to play hide and seek and / or warm-cold in the garden.


7
Expected learning outcomes
The child will be able to:

- formulate conclusions from the story presented by the teacher,
- explain what is most important in his life - he undertakes an axiological reflection
- actively participate in the search for treasures in nature
- respect nature in the kindergarten garden (does not destroy)
- classify subjects according to non-standard criteria

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Assessment

The child can recreate the teacher's story in his own words, indicate the most interesting element of the classes and justify his answer



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9	Equipment and materials to be used in learning unit (tools, ingredients etc) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> stones of various sizes (from the largest to slightly smaller ones, such as semolina for the aquarium); sand, glass vessel; construction wires, googly eyes for animals, poster paints, brushes, painting pads
10	Kind of setting - lab, kitchen, outdoor etc. classroom, preschool garden
11	References - source: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> https://leftbraincraftbrain.com/buildable-rock-slime/ http://littlemomentstoembrace.blogspot.com/2012/05/we-will-rock-youwith-googly-eyes.html https://www.ekokalendarz.pl/wp-content/uploads/pakiet-04-22-swiatowy-dzien-ziemi-poszukiwanie-skarbów.pdf

