

Final Transcript – Ottawa Clip J3

DEVELOPING A RICH TASK

Narrator: Having examined the knowledge and skills in the curriculum expectations, and considered their connections to the achievement chart, teachers discuss possibilities for the design of a comprehensive task that will encourage students to show their learning.

Rola: Okay, now we know what we expect them to learn, so we'll have to come up with a task that meets these expectations.

Matt: My task would be to obviously generate and gather information and organize it, but where I'd like to go with the class is to finally create a written report, that it would talk about the assessment of the social and environmental impacts of humans' uses of rocks and minerals, comparing positives and negatives of gathering and mining these rocks and how it does impact the environment and society, which will help with your science class, with your expectations.

Rola: For my task, as well, it's going to be the usage of it, so what I would have the kids, that they have now gone through the process of identifying properties and characteristics – so they will take a picture of a fireplace or a picture of something at home, and they will describe and justify why were these rocks or minerals used.

Matt: So our tasks are to assess the social impacts and the environmental impacts of the usage of rocks and minerals, and also to look at the properties of those rocks and minerals, and how they are used in everyday life.

Rola: For me, I think I'm going to give them choices to demonstrate their learning.

Matt: Okay, and what kind of things would you...

Rola: They probably could do a presentation of using a variety of technology, it could be oral, it could be just on a picture base, with voice added to it, as well as using several techniques adding on labeling.

Narrator: The teachers design one task, requiring students to research a rock or mineral, and to assess the impact of mining on society and the environment, through which the students will demonstrate their learning of the knowledge and skills from the Overall Expectations in the Language, and in the Science & Technology curricula. How students provide evidence of their learning will vary.