Journey Through the Layers of the Earth

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JOURNEY THROUGH THE LAYERS OF THE EARTH

Dear Family Partner:
We are learning about forces in science. This activity increases my understanding of one type of force called friction. I hope you enjoy this activity with me. This activity is due on ____________________

Sincerely,

Student Signature

OBJECTIVE:
To identify the four layers of the Earth.

MATERIALS:
- One item that has layers such as a hard boiled egg, chocolate covered peanut, avocado, apple, or another item that has layers.
- Knife to cut the item in half. (Do not use the knife without your partner.)

PROCEDURE:
1. Read and explain the following definitions to your family partner.
   - **Crust:** thin outermost layer of earth
   - **Mantle:** layer of earth between the crust and outer core
   - **Outer core:** liquid layer of earth surrounding the inner core
   - **Inner core:** solid, innermost layer of earth

2. With your family partner, carefully cut your food item in half. Draw and label a cross section of your item in Box A. Your labels for the food item might include some of the following terms: shell, skin, pit, chocolate covering, yolk, etc. Next, label the diagram of the cross section of the earth in Box B with the vocabulary terms from above.
3. Show your family partner the labels and drawings you worked on in Step 2. Discuss with your partner the similarities and differences between the diagrams in Boxes A and B. You should record the ideas from your discussion in the data chart below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>My ideas</th>
<th>My family partner’s ideas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Similarity of diagram A and B</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Difference of diagram A and B</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Conclusion:**

Write your answers in complete sentences.

4. Why are models/diagrams useful for studying the layers of the earth?

_________________________________________________________________________

5. What is one disadvantage of using a model or diagram to understand the layers of the earth?

_________________________________________________________________________

**Family Discussion:**

The author Jules Verne wrote a book entitled “Journey to the Center of the Earth” about a young man’s trip into the earth. Discuss with your family partner whether or not each of you would like to travel to the center of the earth. Record both responses below in complete sentences.

My answer:  
_________________________________________________________________________

My family partner’s answer:  
_________________________________________________________________________

**Home-to-School Communication:**

Dear Family Partner,

Please give me your reactions to your Childs work on this activity. Write YES or NO for each statement.

_____ 1. My child understood the homework and was able to complete it.

_____ 2. My child and I enjoyed the activity.

_____ 3. This assignment helped me know what my child is learning in Science.

Any Other Comments:  
_________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________

Family Partner Signature____________________________________ Date:__________________