





# DAY 5 CLOSING SKIT

(All three people are standing together. They have backpacks and equipment around them as they are talking.)

**Dr. Soyle:** As is customary in geological digs, everyone is allowed to take one souvenir with them that has taught them a lesson about God and His creation. But rather than have you simply tell us what you took, let's do it as a game. You tell us the lesson that you learned, and we have to guess what you have.

**Jordan:** You go first, Sammy. I'm still thinking about what I want to say.

**Sammy:** The object that I found reminds me that God created us to live with Him forever. It represents how valuable we are to Him, even though other people might not see it in us.

**Jordan:** Oh, that's easy! You are taking Jell-O with you!

**Sammy:** Jell-O? Where would I find Jell-O in Jasper Canyon, and what does that have to do with geology?! I found a diamond!

(She holds it up. Dr. Soyle and Jordan gasp when they see the diamond.)

**Dr. Soyle:** Wow! That is beautiful! It will be even more beautiful when it gets polished up.

**Sammy:** Alright Jordan, it's your turn now.

**Jordan:** I found something in Jasper Canyon that also reminds me that God created us to live with Him forever. It shows the details of how carefully God has formed each one of us. It also reminds me of the story of creation, when God created Adam.

**Sammy:** Is it a fossil?

(Jordan shows the fossil that he found.)

**Dr. Soyle:** My oh my! I think that is the best-preserved fossil that we have found on the dig. I hope that you remember your time here whenever you look at it.

**Jordan:** Believe me, I will.

**Dr. Soyle:** Well I guess that it's my turn now. What I am taking home with me from this trip is something very special that I found in Jasper Canyon. It is something that I never have found anywhere else. It also reminds me that God created us to live with Him eternally. What do you think that it is?

**Jordan:** It's not Jell-O, is it?

**Dr. Soyle:** (Chuckling) No!

**Sammy:** A diamond?

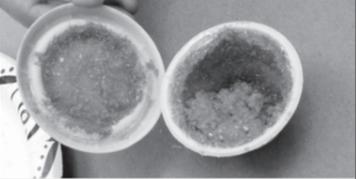
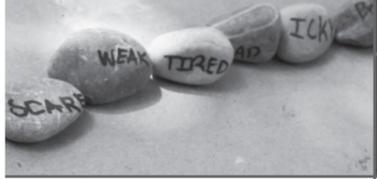
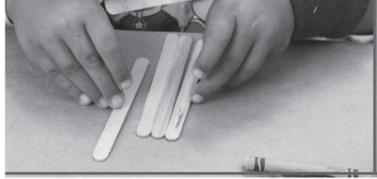
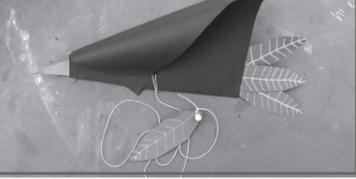
**Dr. Soyle:** Nope. (He holds up a picture of himself with the two kids on the dig.) I found friendship with both of you. The experiences that we have shared this week have been amazing. The memories that we have created learning about God are something that we will always share. Every time I look at this picture I will remember our friendship!

**Sammy:** A friendship that will last forever!

**Jordan:** Yeah!

**THE END**



EXCAVATION POST <i>Prayer Station</i>	ARTIFACT CRAFTS <i>Craft Station</i>	TESTING PIT <i>Game Station</i>	PICNIC SNACKS <i>Snack Station</i>
Play-Doh Sculpting & Field Journal 	Jasper Gemstone 	Get-to-Know-You Pre-Game Rock Wall Cracks	Gemstone Parfait 
Carrying Burdens & Field Journal 	Jasper Canyon Fossils 	Get-to-Know-You Pre-Game Jasper Canyon Obstacle Course	Fossil Crackers 
Mosaic Hearts & Field Journal 	Jasper Mosaic 	Get-to-Know-You Pre-Game Jasper Canyon Mosaic Tag	Mosaic Trail Mix 
Prayer Links & Field Journal 	Jasper Family Petroglyphs 	Get-to-Know-You Pre-Game Jasper Canyon Family Four Square	Petroglyph Sweets 
Popsicle Stick House & Field Journal 	Jasper Canyon Eagle 	Get-to-Know-You Pre-Game Eagles Nest Relay Race	Rockhound Tools 

## DAY 1 OPENING SKIT

*(Dr. Soyle and the two kids enter. They are all carrying armloads of materials. I.E., shovels, picks, buckets, bottles of unidentifiable liquids. They are wearing backpacks, etc. The idea is that they have a lot of equipment to discover the rocks and minerals that they are looking for. Dr. Soyle should have a thick book that is his reference book for identifying what they find.)*

**Dr. Soyle:** Come this way, please. Here is our site. *(Everyone drops the equipment in a big pile in the middle of the space.)* Be careful with that equipment. It is very important for our success.

*(Dr. Soyle holds up a thick book. On the cover is a big picture of his face. The title of the book is "Dr. Doug Soyle's Book of Rocks, Gems, Minerals, and Other Stuff.")*

**Jordan:** Sorry Dr. Soyle, all of this gear was very heavy.

**Sammy:** Yeah! And it's made really strong too. Everything is made of wood and steel, except for your book!

**Dr. Soyle:** That's true! Most of our equipment is very strong. However, some pieces are fragile.

*(Dr. Soyle rummages through the gear and pulls out a couple of fragile tools. One should be a magnifying glass. He holds up these pieces and shows them to the kids.)*

**Dr. Soyle:** See here, this magnifying glass is fragile. It is a very important tool for helping us identify what exactly we found. And here, look at this. This tool could be broken easily as well. *(Hold up any other random tool.)* Everything that we have here is special and has been created with a purpose.

**Jordan:** *(Holding something up.)* What's this used for?

**Dr. Soyle:** That is used to help identify the hardness value of the object being tested.

**Sammy:** How about this? What's the purpose of this? *(Fumbling around with it awkwardly in his hands.)*

*(Dr. Soyle takes it and holds it correctly.)*

**Dr. Soyle:** This is used to help clean rocks and minerals, so that their true colors come out.

**Jordan:** *(Holding up a dirty container. It should be so dirty that it is not obvious what it is.)* How about this...thing?

*(Dr. Soyle opens it and reveals his sandwich and juice box inside.)*

**Dr. Soyle:** This is my lunchbox. It's just rather dirty right now.

**Sammy:** Why exactly are we looking for rocks and minerals anyway?

**Dr. Soyle:** Studying rocks and minerals can tell us about the earth. It will help us know what has happened here in the past. Rocks and minerals can also be very valuable. *(Dr. Soyle looks around on the ground and picks up a piece of granite.)* Who knows what this is?

*(Jordan raises his hand.)*

**Dr. Soyle:** Yes, Jordan!

**Jordan:** A diamond?

**Dr. Soyle:** No.

**Jordan:** A ruby?

**Dr. Soyle:** No.

**Jordan:** Shale?

**Dr. Soyle:** No.

**Jordan:** Slate?

**Dr. Soyle:** No. Maybe we should give Sammy a guess. Sammy, what do you think this is?

**Sammy:** Can I see it?

*(Dr. Soyle hands the piece of granite to Sammy. She looks at it closely.)*

**Sammy:** I'm not 100% sure, but I think that it's a piece of granite.

**Dr. Soyle:** That's correct, Sammy! It is granite.

**Jordan:** *(Funny puzzled look.)* How did you know that? It just looks like an ordinary rock to me.

**Sammy:** So what happens after we finish learning what we can from Jasper Canyon? What do we do next?

**Jordan:** And what happens when we have learned everything about being a geologist?

**Dr. Soyle:** Well I don't think anyone can learn everything there is about geology. But there are other lessons that we can learn outside of Jasper Canyon. Our being in Jasper Canyon is a lot like what God is doing with the people on earth.

**Sammy:** I'm confused.

**Jordan:** What Dr. Soyle is saying is that God is teaching us some lessons while we are on earth and there's enough to learn that we will spend eternity learning different things.

**Dr. Soyle:** Jordan, I couldn't have said that better myself! You are exactly right. We are God's "diamonds in the rough." He says the value and potential is in us. We are all dirty and beat up and covered by sin, but God still sees the value in us. So He takes his time to mine for us, clean us up, and polish us. Do you know why?

*(Jordan raises his finger and looks as if he is going to say something profound. Then he appears to forget what he was going to say, or possibly gets cold feet.)*

**Jordan:** *(Sheepishly)* No.

**Dr. Soyle:** Because God created us to live with Him forever. Diamonds are tough. They can take being dropped and hit, and put through the fire. When God created us, He made us curious, so that for the rest of eternity we will be learning things. It won't be like school, where sometimes you get bored. It will be like every day is the best day of your life.

**Sammy:** Wow, that sounds amazing!

*(Jordan looks sad.)*

**Dr. Soyle:** Jordan, what's the matter? You look sad.

**Jordan:** This week that we've spent in Jasper Canyon has been amazing. In fact, it's been the best week of my life. I don't want it to end.

**Dr. Soyle:** It's not over yet, Jordan. We still have a few more hours here.

**Sammy:** Besides, this isn't the end of our time as geologists. It's only the beginning. So let's make the most of our time that we have left here! Maybe we'll still find some rock candy that someone dropped...

*(Jordan smiles.)*

### THE END



## DAY 5 OPENING SKIT

*(The scene starts with Dr. Soyle and the children all lying on the ground beside a hole that has been dug. There should be shovels laying on the ground next to them. The top of a ladder is visible sticking out of the hole.)*

**Dr. Soyle:** I can't ever remember a time when I have felt so tired in my entire life.

**Jordan:** I'm too tired to even open my eyes. What day is it?

**Sammy:** It's our last day in Jasper Canyon. We only have a couple of hours before our parents come and get us. By the way Dr. Soyle, what were we digging for? You never told us.

**Dr. Soyle:** We are looking for diamonds!

**Jordan:** *(Suddenly sits up with energy.)* Diamonds! Did I hear you right?

**Dr. Soyle:** That's right! Diamonds!

**Sammy:** Do you really think that we might find diamonds here?

**Dr. Soyle:** We might. Diamonds are found deep in the ground. They are formed when carbon is put under intense pressure and heat. Sometimes during the transformation process, things happen that result in the diamond changing colors.

**Jordan:** I thought that all diamonds were a clear, white color.

**Dr. Soyle:** A lot of people think that, but there are lots of colors of diamonds. There are the clear white ones. There are also brown ones and blue ones and yellow ones.

**Sammy:** Is it true that diamonds are very strong?

**Dr. Soyle:** Yes, it is! In fact, the way that they cut diamonds into different shapes is by using other diamonds.

**Jordan:** Wow. Diamonds cut diamonds. Aren't diamonds valuable too?

**Dr. Soyle:** Yes, they are! There are different things that determine their value; the color, the clarity, and size all determine its value.

**Sammy:** How big are diamonds when they are found in the ground?

**Jordan:** Oh! They're usually the size of a baseball. Sometimes they are the size of a basketball.

**Sammy:** Wow! That's a lot bigger than I thought!

**Jordan:** Yeah! That's cool!

**Dr. Soyle:** Unfortunately, nobody has found a diamond the size of a basketball, or even a baseball. But maybe we will today! But we won't do that lying here on the ground.

*(At this point all three of them get up energetically and pick up their shovels, but they don't start digging.)*

**Jordan:** Dr. Soyle, before we start digging again, I have a question for you.

**Dr. Soyle:** Yes?

**Jordan:** What do they mean when they say someone is a "diamond in the rough"?

**Dr. Soyle:** The term "diamond in the rough" refers to someone who is a good person, but doesn't know a lot.

**Sammy:** I don't understand what you are saying.

**Dr. Soyle:** Let's take both of you for instance. You are both interested in geology, in being rockhounds.

**Jordan:** Someday, I hope to be a geologist.

**Sammy:** Shhhh, let him finish.

**Dr. Soyle:** As aspiring geologists you know just enough to make you want to learn more. In order to be able to identify the different rocks and minerals, it takes time and a lot of learning.

**Sammy:** That's why we came to Jasper Canyon. It has a wide variety of rocks and minerals...

**Jordan:** And hopefully diamonds!

**Sammy:** And hopefully diamonds for us to learn about.

**Dr. Soyle:** That's right! Jasper canyon is full of many different things that are important for a geologist to learn about.

**Sammy:** Well, there are certain things that are special about granite.

**Jordan:** Like what?

**Sammy:** Granite is mainly made of quartz, feldspar, biotite, and muscovite. The mineral compound will determine what it looks like.

**Jordan:** If it can look so many different ways, how can you be sure that it's granite?

**Sammy:** Another thing that makes granite special is the fracture lines. Those are the ways that help make its shape. Also, granite is found on the earth's crust. It can be found all over the world and it looks different, depending on where you find it.

*(Jordan stumped and surprised she could say all that.)*

**Dr. Soyle:** Very impressive, Sammy! How do you know so much about granite?

**Sammy:** I helped my parents research it when they were looking at using it to make countertops for our kitchen. They wanted something that was durable and beautiful.

**Jordan:** So that piece of rock...

**Sammy:** Granite...

**Jordan:** Granite can be made into something useful...and beautiful?

**Dr. Soyle:** Oh yes! The things that we are going to be learning about this week have many special uses. They might not look like anything special when you first find them, but underneath all of that dirt and grime is something special. In fact, that is one of my favorite things about being a rockhound. It reminds us that God has made everything with a purpose. Different things have value in different ways. Yet they are all special.

**Sammy:** I only know about granite and its uses.

**Dr. Soyle:** Granite is only one of the many things that God has created special and with a purpose. So here's what we are going to do. I will give you a copy of my book. *(Holding it up for everyone to see.)* Take this book and try to identify the rocks and minerals that are around our camp. I will see you back here in one hour. Are there any questions?

*(He lightly tosses them the book and they catch it but are amazed by how heavy it is.)*

*(Both Sammy and Jordan raise their hands.)*

**Dr. Soyle:** Yes, Jordan, you have a question?

**Jordan:** Yes, Dr. Soyle, when is lunch?

**Dr. Soyle:** I will have it ready when you get back. Sammy, your question?

**Sammy:** How many objects do you want us to bring back?

**Dr. Soyle:** That is purely up to you. Remember, I want you back here in one hour though.

*(Jordan raises his hand again.)*

**Dr. Soyle:** Yes, Jordan, do you have another question?

**Jordan:** What are we having for lunch?

**Sammy:** Is lunch the only thing that you ever think about?

**Jordan:** No, I also think about breakfast and dinner.

**Dr. Soyle:** Lunch will be a surprise! I promise that you will like it.

*(Jordan raises his hand again.)*

**Dr. Soyle:** Is this another question about lunch?

**Jordan:** No.

**Dr. Soyle:** Ok then, what is your question?

**Jordan:** What time is dinner?

*(Sammy sighs and picks up the book to leave. Jordan follows and tucks a napkin in his shirt, so if he spills food he won't get dirty. He also picks up a fork and knife and carries them out with him.)*







## DAY 4 CLOSING SKIT

*(The scene opens with Dr. Soyle and the children putting the finishing touches on their presentation for their parents. There should be a sign hanging up welcoming the parents. There should also be enlarged photos of different types of fossils, including the three fossils that were discovered during the first part of the program.)*

*(Parents enter. They come in and hug the children before the dialogue starts.)*

**Sammy:** We are glad that you are here with us today in Jasper Canyon! Today we have been learning about families.

**Jordan:** I know that might sound strange to you, because other than us, there isn't anyone else here. Yet, we have been learning all about OTHER families by studying fossils.

**Sammy:** What are fossils, you may be asking yourself. These are fossils! *(Showing either the pictures or real fossils.)*

**Jordan:** Fossils can be what's left of people, or animals, or leaves, or other stuff. We found these fossils right over there, in the ground. Dr. Soyle thinks that they may have been a family.

**Dr. Soyle:** That's right! There are certain things about these fossils that lead me to believe that they were a family. For one thing, they look alike. Secondly, they were close together when we found them.

**Sammy:** Hey Dr. Soyle, I just realized something!

**Dr. Soyle:** What, Sammy?

**Sammy:** These fossils remind me that we are part of God's family!

**Jordan:** *(Perplexed)* I'm not sure that I understand the connection here.

**Sammy:** These fossils look alike. And the Bible says that humans were created in God's image. That means that we look like God, kind of...at least. I suppose sin has changed the way we look a little.

**Jordan:** Yeah? So?

**Sammy:** And these fossils were all found here together. And they would have stayed together forever, if we hadn't dug them up.

**Jordan:** So?

**Sammy:** So Jesus has said that someday He will come back to earth to get us and take us to heaven with Him. Imagine that sin is this yucky, sticky mud. We are stuck in it, because of sin. However, Jesus loves us so much that He died for us. Jesus died so that He could take us out of the yucky mud, and live with us forever with Him.

**Dr. Soyle:** And that is what it means to be part of God's family. It means that we will be with Him forever. I like your analogy about fossils and being part of God's family, Sammy.

**Jordan:** Wait, wait, wait, I think that I can come up with a good analogy using fossils and being part of God's family too!

*(There is an awkward silence for a few seconds. Jordan should act like he is coming up with a good idea, then realizes that he doesn't. He should do this 3-4 times before he gives up trying.)*

**Jordan:** On second thought, I really like what Sammy said. I don't think that I need to add anything else to it.

**Dr. Soyle:** So what should we show your parents next?

**Jordan:** I would like to show them how I can eat an entire plate of peas only using a knife. Then I will show them how I use my shoelaces to drink water from my canteen. And after that...

**Dr. Soyle:** Is there anything else that you kids would like to show your parents, before we see "The Amazing Jordan and his food feats of fun"?

**Sammy:** Nothing that I can think of.

**Jordan:** Me neither!

**THE END**

## DAY 1 CLOSING SKIT

*(The scene opens with the kids returning to the campsite. They have their packs with them. They are looking tired.)*

**Dr. Soyle:** Here are my two rockhounds! How was your expedition? Were you successful in identifying what you found?

*(Sammy nods to Jordan. He takes off his backpack and starts pulling out the objects as Sammy reads what they are and their description.)*

**Sammy:** First off, we found a piece of slate. We were able to identify it by its gray color. It is composed of iron, feldspar, calcite, and other organic material. We tested it by breaking it in sheets like so...

*(Jordan demonstrates by breaking a piece.)*

**Sammy:** The last test that we did was scraping it with another rock. Slate is soft and was easily scratched by the other rock.

**Dr. Soyle:** Very impressive! You were able to identify some different things that make slate special. Now, do you know what slate can be used for?

**Jordan:** I believe that slate can be used in building somehow. I think.

**Dr. Soyle:** That's right! Slate can be used to make roof shingles. What do you have next?

**Sammy:** The next thing that we found was sandstone. Sandstone is composed of minerals or pieces of rock the size of a grain of sand. Limestone and sandstone look similar, so we had to hit it with a hammer to make sure that it was sandstone.

**Dr. Soyle:** And what happened when you hit it with a hammer?

**Jordan:** It crumbled into tiny pieces of sand. That meant that it was sandstone.

**Dr. Soyle:** Very Good! You two are quite the rockhounds! While you were gone I was just thinking about how much we are like the rocks and minerals.

**Sammy:** Really? In what ways?

**Jordan:** We are small and dirty and kind of rough around the edges.

**Dr. Soyle:** *(Smiling)* No, not like that. It's that each rock or mineral that you find is unique. There are no two that are exactly alike.

**Sammy:** Aren't twins exactly alike?

**Dr. Soyle:** No, twins *look* similar, but there are still differences between them. Besides all looking differently, we also have different personalities and talents. For example, some people are born with a natural curiosity about nature. They love to go outside and explore the plants and the animals. Other people would prefer to spend their time talking with people. The more they are with people, the happier that they are.

**Sammy:** So what you are saying is that just like these rocks and minerals, God created each one of us unique...

**Jordan:** And special!

**Sammy:** Yes, special, and the talents that He gives to us are all important.

**Dr. Soyle:** That's right! Just like each rock and mineral has a very important purpose, each one of us has a very important purpose given to us by God.

**Jordan:** I wonder what my purpose is.

**Dr. Soyle:** I don't know what God has in store for you down the road, but right now your job is... *(Dr. Soyle pulls out a big pot of chili)* to eat all of the chili you want! I also have cornbread over there.

**Jordan:** Awesome!

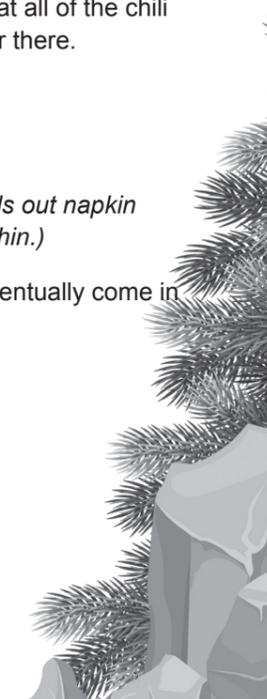
**Sammy:** I'll go get the cornbread!

**Jordan:** And I will get us bowls! *(Pulls out napkin again and starts tucking it in under chin.)*

**Sammy:** I knew my napkin would eventually come in handy...

*(They laugh.)*

**THE END**



## DAY 2 OPENING SKIT

*(The scene opens with Dr. Soyle, Sammy, and Jordan all inside of the tent. There is a table set up inside with a variety of objects on it. The premise is that they are going to test to see how strong the different objects will be.)*

**Dr. Soyle:** Sammy, Jordan, I hope that you both had a good night's sleep. Today is going to be a very demanding day. Your strength will be tested today.

**Sammy:** What are we going to be doing today, Dr. Soyle?

**Dr. Soyle:** I am going to teach you different methods for identifying the strength of rocks, minerals, and gems.

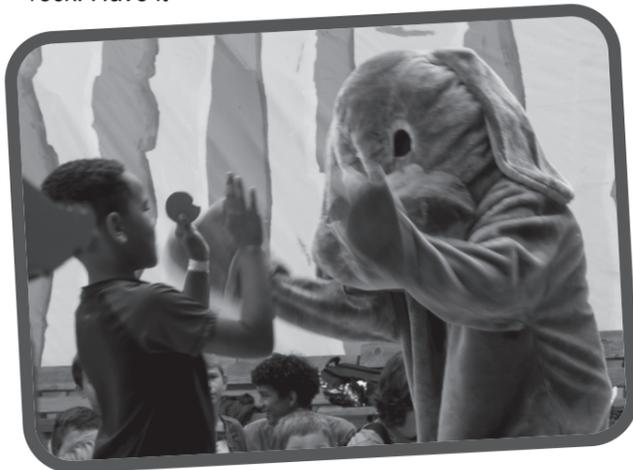
**Jordan:** That sounds hard, get it? *(Kind of laughs at his own joke.)*

**Dr. Soyle:** *(Smiles kindly)* The first step is going out and finding things that we can test. We need to find lots of different things. Some things that look strong are actually quite weak. Things that look weak, in reality, might have hidden strength. So here *(hands each child a backpack)*, take these backpacks. You can put whatever you find in them. We will meet back here in one hour.

**Jordan & Sammy:** Got it!

*(The kids, for whatever reason, salute Dr. Soyle, put on their backpacks and leave. Dr. Soyle puts on his backpack and follows them out of the tent.)*

*(Each person individually finds objects to put in their backpacks. Jordan picks up a large, dusty rock. Have it*



*covered with dust or flour, and have some in his hands, so that when he blows on it to clean it off, it makes a giant dust cloud. [Humor factor.] At one point, Jordan's backpack is so full of stuff that when he sits down on a rock or log to rest, the backpack pulls him over backward. Next, Jordan has so much in his backpack that he can't lift it.)*

*(Sammy pokes at an object with a stick to see if it moves. One time when she picks something up she will jump back in terror because there are bugs or a worm underneath it. Eventually, she picks it up after gingerly putting on gloves. Sammy should pull salad tongs or pliers out of her backpack to pick up the objects. Sammy's backpack will not be as full as Jordan's backpack.)*

*(Dr. Soyle has his Dr. Soyle book with him. He finds an object and consults his book before deciding whether to place the object in his backpack or place it back where he found it. At one point, Dr. Soyle sits down and reads his book. He picks up his sandwich and takes a bite without looking. He then sets it down and picks up his apple without looking and takes a bite of it. He then sets it down and takes a drink from his juice box. Then mistakenly Dr. Soyle picks up a rock or dirt clod instead of his apple and bites into it without even noticing it. He really loves his book. Try to mix in some these silly moments.)*

*(Finally, everyone enters the tent at the same time.)*

**Dr. Soyle:** Ok, let's see what we've got. *(Dr. Soyle starts unpacking his pack normally. Sammy starts unpacking her pack in an orderly fashion. Jordan just dumps his entire pack on the table with a big crash.)*

**Sammy:** It was really difficult to decide what to put in my backpack.

**Jordan:** That's why I put everything that I saw into my backpack.

**Sammy:** I can see that.

**Dr. Soyle:** Now that we have gathered our items for testing, I want you to guess which of the items that you have found will be the strongest, and which item will be the weakest.

**Jordan:** Ok! I'll go first. *(As Jordan is digging through his pile of stuff, things are falling on the floor and going all over the place. Finally, Jordan*

**Jordan:** Dr. Soyle, is it true that in some animal families that the mother and father don't stay together with their children?

**Dr. Soyle:** Yes, it is! When God created the human family, He intended it to have a mother and a father that would work together to raise their children. However, in the animal world, God created some families differently. In some cases, like lion families, it works better if there is one father for a lot of mothers.

**Sammy:** So even through fossils we can learn about the different ways that God created families?

**Dr. Soyle:** Certainly! Fossils are really just family histories. For example, we found three of these fossils together. They were discovered about the same depth as well. That would indicate that they were possibly living here together at the same time. That means that the baby fossil wasn't old enough yet to be exploring on its own, and the mother and father stayed close, so they could watch over it.

**Jordan:** That reminds me of my family. My parents like to keep a close eye on me.

**Sammy:** That's because they worry about you. They don't want you to get hurt or eat rock candy off the ground.

**Jordan:** Very funny. Why should they worry about me getting hurt?

**Sammy:** Well, there was the time when the brakes went out on your bicycle and you ended up crashing into your garage door. Then there was the time when you walked through the sliding glass door because your mom had just cleaned it.

**Jordan:** In my defense, it was so clean I didn't see it.

**Dr. Soyle:** Even though those were accidents, Jordan, your parents still have the right to worry about you. God gives us parents to take care of us. In fact, today your parents are coming to visit you here in Jasper Canyon!

**Sammy:** They are?! It seems like forever since I've seen them!

**Jordan:** But in reality, it's only been four days.

**Sammy:** True. But four days are still a long time to go without seeing your family!

**Dr. Soyle:** Anyway, I thought that we could plan a little program for them. We could show them what we have been doing here in Jasper Canyon.

**Jordan:** I think that they would like that.

**Sammy:** Yeah! My parents are always interested in what I'm doing!

**Dr. Soyle:** Ok! Let's figure out what we want to show them.

**Sammy:** How about we show them the fossils? We can explain to them what we believe about these fossils being a family and everything.

**Jordan:** Yeah! I think my parents would like that as well. They seem to like stuff that is really old. You should see our car...

*(Everyone laughs.)*

**Dr. Soyle:** Ok kids, your parents will be here in a little over an hour. Let's prepare our fossil display and figure out what we want to say.

*(Dr. Soyle and the children begin busily assembling things for when their parents come.)*

## THE END



## DAY 4 OPENING SKIT

*(The scene starts with Dr. Soyle and the kids digging around a site with fossils. They are going to see a family of fossils together.)*

**Sammy:** I think that I've found something, *(she straightens up and wipes her brow)* but I'm not sure.

**Dr. Soyle:** Wait a minute! Let me come over and have a look.

*(Dr. Soyle goes over to where Sammy is. He takes out a brush and carefully begins brushing away the sand or dirt to reveal part of a small fossil. This fossil, when it is completely uncovered, would be large like a horse. You don't have to actually show the fossil.)*

**Dr. Soyle:** You have uncovered the fossil of an adult mammal of some kind. Until it's completely uncovered, I don't know what kind for sure.

**Jordan:** Hey, I think that I found a fossil now!

**Dr. Soyle:** Jordan, be careful. Fossils can be very fragile. And we don't want to disturb their mud home any more than is necessary.

*(Dr. Soyle goes over and brushes dirt away from a much smaller fossil, approximately the size of a dog. Again, you don't have to actually show it; just talking about it works.)*

**Dr. Soyle:** This is definitely similar to the fossil that Sammy found.

*(Everyone keeps digging and finally, Dr. Soyle finds a fossil almost as large as the one that Sammy found.)*



**Dr. Soyle:** Come over here and see what I found!

*(The children run over to where Dr. Soyle is.)*

**Jordan:** What is it?

**Sammy:** It looks similar to the fossils that we have found.

**Dr. Soyle:** Yes! You are right, Sammy! It looks like we found three fossils of the same species. In fact, I bet that these three fossils are members of the same family. Look at their proximity to each other. They were found fairly close together. Also, look at how similar their bone structures are. That's what makes me think that they are not only from the same species, but probably from the same family.

**Jordan:** So these creatures were a family? Kind of like our families?

**Sammy:** Of course! These fossils use to be a real, living family. They are fossils now because they... are not a living family anymore.

**Dr. Soyle:** That's right! These fossils use to be part of a family. They ate together, spent time together, and possibly even celebrated their birthdays together!

*(Jordan gets on his hands and knees and starts digging around.)*

**Sammy:** Jordan, what are you doing?

**Jordan:** I'm looking to see if they have any leftovers from a birthday party; I'm hungry!

**Dr. Soyle:** *(Smiling)* I'm sorry to disappoint you, Jordan, but I don't think that this family had birthday parties. And if they did, I don't think that you would like what they had to eat. Even though God created families, He didn't create all families to be the same.

**Sammy:** How are families different?

**Dr. Soyle:** Well, some families have the parents and the children living together. Other families might have grandparents living with them also. Also, some families live in houses, while other families might live in apartments. Those are just a few of the differences that families might have.

*finds what he is looking for. It is a large rock.)* I know without any doubt that this rock will be the strongest thing that I found.

**Dr. Soyle:** And how do you "know" that?

**Jordan:** Because of its size! Look at how big this thing is, and it's really heavy too! I can hardly lift it. In fact, when I put it in my backpack, it pulled me over backward. You should have seen it.

**Sammy:** I wish that we would have. *(Laughing.)*

**Jordan:** It took me 10 *(counting on his fingers)*, no, 20 minutes to dig it out of the ground!

**Dr. Soyle:** Well that is a very large rock that you have there. However, looks can be deceiving. Just because something is large doesn't mean that it is strong. But we will leave that up to our testing to decide the strength of your rock.

**Jordan:** *(Picking up something small.)* This will definitely be the weakest thing that I found. Look at how tiny it is. It's so small that I could eat it and not even notice it.

*(Jordan is starting to put it in his mouth when Dr. Soyle stops him.)*

**Dr. Soyle:** I don't think that's a very good idea to put that in your mouth.

*(Jordan sets the object back down on the table.)*

**Sammy:** *(Very carefully sorting through the objects on her table. She chooses something that is shiny.)* Um, this object will be the strongest one in my opinion. Look at it. It's so clean and shines bright. How can anything that is so beautiful be anything but strong?

**Dr. Soyle:** That certainly does have a nice shine to it. Where did you find it?

**Sammy:** It was wedged between a group of rocks, over by the river. I think this object will be the most fragile one that I found. It almost crumbles when I touch it now.

**Dr. Soyle:** Be careful with it then. As for me, here is something that I believe will be very strong. It will be between a 6-7 on the Doug Soyle Official Geology Strength Scale.

**Jordan:** What is that?

**Dr. Soyle:** The Doug Soyle Official Geology Strength Scale is something that I invented to measure how strong different things are. For example, a measurement of 1 is so delicate that a slight breeze will cause it to crumble. A 10 means that you can drop it off a 100-story building and it won't break.

**Sammy:** So what is the strength of a 6-7?

**Dr. Soyle:** That means that it is strong enough that you can't break it by hitting it with a hammer, but that it would be destroyed if you placed it on a train track. And here is what I suspect will be the weakest thing that I found today. *(Holds it up.)*

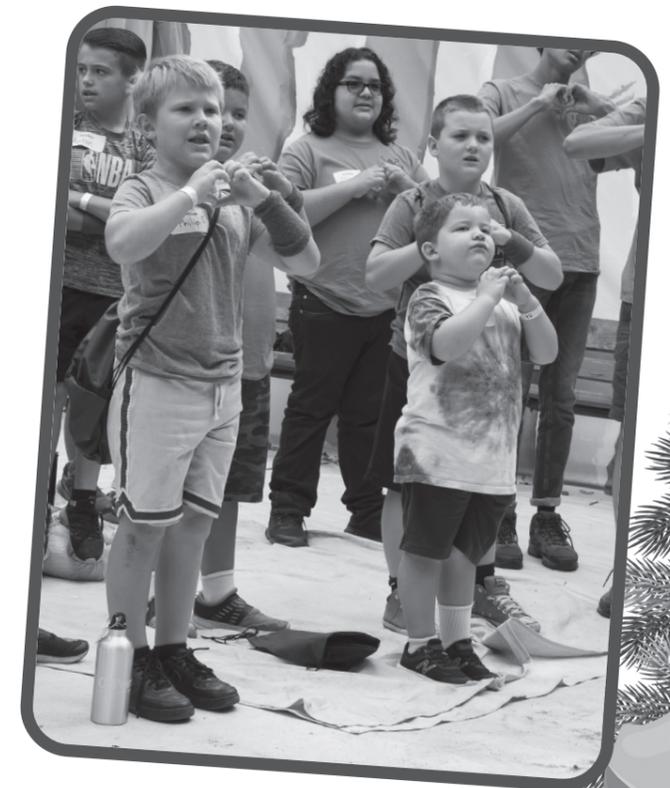
**Sammy:** So when can we start testing what we found?

**Dr. Soyle:** Well, it will take a little bit to set up our testing site. So why don't we eat first? Then we will have plenty of energy for work.

**Jordan:** I like this idea a lot. On the Official Jordan Scale of Hunger, I'm a 10. That means that I could eat an entire pizza by myself right now!

*(Everyone laughs and heads out.)*

## THE END









## DAY 3 OPENING SKIT

*(The skit opens with Dr. Soyle, Sammy, and Jordan all sitting on the ground, around a blanket with a variety of rocks and minerals around it.)*

**Dr. Soyle:** Today is another day in Jasper Canyon. A day that will find my two favorite rockhounds-in-training learning how to correctly identify what they find. You see, many people jump to conclusions, assuming that a crystal is a diamond, and anything that is remotely yellow and sparkles...is gold.

**Jordan:** Dr. Soyle, you can teach us the secrets of being smart!

*(Dr. Soyle laughs.)*

**Dr. Soyle:** It's not about being smart. It's about knowing what to do. You see, people can be smart, but if you're not smart about geology, you won't know what you are looking at.

**Sammy:** I know a lot about drawing pictures, and taking care of my cat, and even about cooking. But I don't know much about geology, except for granite... because of the whole kitchen thing...

**Jordan:** I know a lot about gardening, and juggling, and of course the Bible. I'm totally lost when it comes to geology. I hardly even notice rocks and minerals, unless I trip over them.

*(Everyone laughs.)*

**Dr. Soyle:** There are so many different things that people are smart at. And all of them are important. If you want to be smart about geology, there are certain things that you need to know.

**Jordan:** I think I know what the most important part of geology is; it's knowing what rock candy looks like!

**Sammy:** Rock candy! What's that?

**Jordan:** It's candy that looks like a rock, but you can eat it. And it's really good. I'm hoping that you can teach me how to find that lying around on the ground.

**Sammy:** Dr. Soyle, is there really rock candy?

**Dr. Soyle:** There is something called rock candy. However, it's not really a rock. At least, you don't

find it lying around on the ground. Unless somebody drops it on the ground on accident.

**Jordan:** I would still pick it up and eat it! Five-second rule!

**Sammy:** Yuck!

**Dr. Soyle:** Even though candy doesn't just appear on the ground, there are many other valuable things that you can find there. That's one reason why it's important to learn how to identify what you see.

**Jordan:** We agree that it's important to learn how to identify what's on the ground, but how do we do it?

**Dr. Soyle:** Rocks and minerals can be identified through a variety of different steps. One way is to simply look at the rock. You can tell a lot about what is in your hand by looking at it. What color is it? Is there more than one color to it? Does it look shiny? Can I see light through it? And there are many other questions that can be answered simply by looking at it.

**Jordan:** Like, what happens if I throw this rock really, really hard? Is it too big for me to put in my pocket? Is it really a rock, or is it a piece of candy that fell on the ground and is covered in dirt?

**Sammy:** Or maybe, what can I use this rock for? Is this broken off of a bigger rock? How come nobody else has picked up this rock?

**Dr. Soyle:** Well those are certainly interesting questions. However, the questions that a rockhound will ask are meant to teach us more about what we find. They aren't questions of curiosity. Besides looking at the rock or mineral or whatever we find, we also ask what it is made of. For instance, *(Dr. Soyle picks up something made of clay with rock pebbles in it)* this object is made of at least two elements that we can see. There are small pebbles that are being held together by some kind of a clay material. This is important to know, because rocks can be made of clay. So seeing these two together lets us know that something caused the clay part to dissolve to be more like mud than rock.

**Sammy:** Would that be like a flood causing a canyon to erode the sandstone?

**Dr. Soyle:** Yes, Sammy, it would! That's why canyons are good reminders to us about God's power over nature.

**Jordan:** And His promise that He would never cover the earth again with water, like the flood of Noah's time!

**Dr. Soyle:** Right!

*(Jordan picks up some clay that was in a ball and he starts massaging it with it in his hands.)*

**Sammy:** Jordan, what are you doing?

**Jordan:** I was just remembering how the Bible says that God formed Adam out of the clay of the earth and breathed life into him. I'm trying to imagine what I would look like if I was made out of clay.

**Sammy:** I'm glad that God is in charge of creating us instead of you!

**Jordan:** Ha, yeah, me too!

**Dr. Soyle:** A third question that geologists ask about what they find is how does it respond to different situations?

**Jordan:** You mean, like does it get scared at night when the lights are turned off, or is it afraid of the neighbor's dog because he is really large?

**Dr. Soyle:** Uh, no.

**Jordan:** Oh good, because I'm not afraid of those situations either. *(Trying to laugh it off nervously.)*

**Sammy:** What kind of situations are you talking about then, Dr. Soyle?

**Dr. Soyle:** Situations like what happens when water runs over it. Another situation involves intense heat being applied to it. Or even pressure being placed on it. If all of that doesn't tell us what we have, we can always put a few drops of acid on it, and wait to see how it reacts.

**Jordan:** You have to be really smart to remember all of these things, Dr. Soyle.

**Dr. Soyle:** Thank you, Jordan. I have read a lot of books and studied a lot to understand how these things work. You might say that I really dig geology!

*(Laughs at himself while the kids don't get his joke.)*

**Dr. Soyle:** Now besides rocks and minerals, we sometimes find other things in the ground. Sometimes we find fossils. Do you know what a fossil is?

**Sammy:** Isn't it the remains or impression of something living that has decomposed in the ground?

**Dr. Soyle:** That's right! It's when you find something, or the shape of something, that has disintegrated and only has left an impression behind. When we find fossils, we are curious about what they are. How long they have been there? And how they ended up there? You see, sometimes we find fossils in places that don't make sense. For example, you might find a fossil of a leaf in a creek bed covered by two feet of mud. How would a leaf get that far under the ground?

**Jordan:** My mom might be a geologist; sometimes she thinks my socks were under two feet of mud.

*(Everyone laughs.)*

**Sammy:** Parents have to be pretty smart to understand how kids do the things they do. We can be pretty confusing sometimes!

**Dr. Soyle:** Whether it comes to parenting, being a rockhound, or any of a number of other things, we all get our intelligence from the same place...God! So here is what you are going to do. I want you to go and find different things to test. Then we will meet back here and use the different methods that we've talked about to answer the questions and find out exactly what you've found.

**Sammy:** And by the end of today, we will be smarter rockhounds!

*(Jordan howls like dog/coyote. They laugh as they head out.)*

## THE END