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HOW TO USE AN NSI ROCK TUMBLER

By Kelvin O'Donahue; Updated April 25, 2017



Budding young Earth scientists deserve educational toys as much as chemists or rocket scientists. One favorite toy is a small rock tumbler, such as the one made by NSI. Tumbling rocks to a glossy finish demonstrates the principle of mechanical

erosion, while also teaching your child that geological processes are slow.

As a hobby, rock tumbling is not merely educational. Once the experiment is complete, the tumbler delivers a fistful of shiny stones to keep as cool science souvenirs or to use for jewelry, crafts and games.

Wash the rock samples included with the kit to remove soil, then remove the barrel cover and place the rocks inside it, along with the kit's coarse grit. The coarse grit bag is marked "Step1." Add enough water to just barely cover the rocks.

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