Earth Materials

A Sticky Situation: Designing Walls

TEACHER RESOURCE

Making Stuff Activity Guide
This free, downloadable activity guide from NOVA's Making Stuff is designed to familiarize students aged 10-12 with materials science. Students test the strength of different materials, build with magnets, make clean batteries, and explore “smart” gloves.
http://bit.ly/1b5FUbw

STUDENT RESOURCES

The Dirt on Dirt
This series of short animated video segments, including one live action segment, introduce students to dirt’s properties and uses. This 8-part video resource was developed by the Jim Henson Company and is great for lower elementary students.
http://bit.ly/1hhadDa

Building a Dam Like a Beaver
This short video hosted by PBS Learning Media follows a group of children as they use earth materials to stop the flow of water. This resource includes background information on dams and discussion questions related to materials properties. (1:30)

Characteristics of Materials
This interactive game developed by BBC gets students thinking about the properties of various materials by having them “test” the materials in a testing lab and then build with the materials in a workshop.
http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/scienceclips/ages/7_8/characteristics_materials.shtml

Material World
In this interactive website designed by the Museum Network (UK), students can explore the properties of common materials and a variety of ways the materials are used. For each material, students see examples of how it has been used throughout history by looking at artifacts from real museums.
http://www.museumnetworkuk.org/materials/index.html

Want to suggest other resources for the unit? Write to eie@mos.org. For science and literacy resources that support other EiE units, visit eie.org.