Lesson 1: Let's Dig In!

UNIT: Rock Camp

TRANSCRIPT

HOOK 1

Hi, writers. It's Margaret.

I have a friend named Max, and he just told me an amazing story about his time at camp. His mom surprised him by sending him to a place called Rock Camp.

Max was so excited because he absolutely loves rock and roll music. And his best friend Hailey was excited for him, too. They both love loud music, and cool guitar solos, and they loved pretending to be in a rock band together. When Hailey heard Max was going to rock camp, she thought it sounded awesome.

Max packed his guitar and all his favorite band t-shirts—he was ready to rock. But when Max got to camp, he realized that it wasn't that kind of rock. There were no guitars, no music, just rocks—like the type you find on the ground. Max felt disappointed and even wanted to go home. But then, things started to change for Max. Here's the voice message that he sent me:

"Hi, Margaret. You're not going to believe this—Rock Camp is amazing! They showed us this cave with giant crystals. We learned how people use rocks to build amazing things. They showed us how to search for space rocks called meteorites. They taught us how to crack open geodes, and they let us hold fossils from a long, long time ago. There's so many cool things at this camp!"

DISCUSSION 1

Discuss: What part of rock camp looks fun to you and why?

HOOK 2

I don't know what you said, but all of it looks really fun and interesting to me. Here is more of Max's message:

"I was completely wrong about what Rock Camp would be like. I'm so glad I came. I'm going to come back next year and hopefully bring my best friend, Hailey, with me."

Max loves Rock Camp and he wants to go back next summer with Hailey. But when Hailey found out that Rock Camp was all about actual rocks, she said, "That sounds really boring."

Today, you'll watch videos, read about Rock Camp, and take notes about all the rockin' things that happen at Rock Camp. Then later on, you'll help Max by writing a letter to his friend, Hailey, trying to convince her that Rock Camp, well... rocks.

I'll get you started, step by step.

STEP 1

Get your supplies.

STEP 2

It's time to learn all about Rock Camp. To get started, watch this video to learn more about some of the activities at Rock Camp.

"Welcome to Rock Camp, a place where every day is an adventure and every rock has a story to tell.

Go on outdoor rock hunting missions and discover amazing things hidden in the ground. Get creative with rock painting and turn simple stones into colorful works of art. Test your skills with rock balancing and build towers that seem to defy gravity. Plus, there's hikes, games, new friends, and surprises everywhere you go.

If you are ready to explore, create, and discover, Rock Camp is ready for you."

STEP 3

Get your Notes and Camp Flyer worksheets.

The Camp Flyer worksheet describes three of the camp's most popular activities: rock hunting, rock painting, and rock balancing. It also features some fun facts about each one.

Your Notes worksheet is where you'll take notes on what you notice about Rock Camp and its activities, what you like about it, and what you think Hailey might like as well.

For now, let's just read the “Rock Hunting” section. You'll take notes later on. If you'd like to read it on your own, pause the video now or keep playing to hear me read it aloud.

“Rock Hunting - Look for cool rocks by exploring trails, riverbeds, and open fields.

- *Geodes look plain on the outside, but have crystals on the inside.*
- *Meteorites are space rocks that can be found with magnets.*
- *The camp record for largest geode is eleven inches.”*

STEP 4

Reread the "Rock Hunting" section of the flyer and take notes in the "Rock Hunting" section of your worksheet. When you take notes, you don't need to write in complete sentences. Just jot down a few words to help you remember what you liked.

Remember, you're writing a letter to Max's best friend, Hailey, trying to convince her that Rock Camp is fun.

Make sure to take notes on what you noticed about Rock Camp and its activities, what you liked about it, and what you think Hailey might like as well.

Reread the "Rock Hunting" section and take notes.

STEP 5

Now let's read the "Rock Painting" and "Rock Balancing" sections of the Camp Flyer. You'll take notes later on. If you'd like to read it on your own, pause the video now or keep playing to hear me read it aloud.

"Rock Painting - Turn plain stones into colorful art featuring animals or silly faces. Or make kindness rocks.

- *People have painted on rocks and in caves for thousands of years.*
- *Painted rocks can be traded, collected, or used for decoration.*
- *The camp's largest painted rock is a turtle.*

Rock Balancing - Rock balancing is the art of stacking stones in careful ways.

- *Each rock stack is different, which makes every creation special.*
- *Some artists build giant rock towers and sculptures.*
- *The tallest camp rock stack reached 5 feet high."*

STEP 6

Reread these two sections and take notes.

STEP 7

Nice job, writers. Now let's watch a video where you'll hear Max read a letter to his mom about Rock Camp. You'll take notes later on.

> *“Dear Mom,*
>
> *You were totally wrong about Rock Camp. You said it'll be all about music, but it's really all about rocks. At first, I thought it would be the most boring camp ever, but then it got way better.*
>
> *During rock painting, we made kindness rocks in the art studio. We printed bright colors, wrote little messages on them like "Be kind" and "Have a great day." Then we hid them around camp for other kids to find. I painted one with a smiley face and a rainbow, and someone found it the very next morning.*
>
> *During rock hunting, we learned about fossils. Fossils are rocks with old imprints of plants and animals trapped inside. I found one that was like a little spiral.*
>
> *My favorite part was rock balancing by the river because if you choose your rocks carefully, you can stack them really high and get the title of Rock Ninja.*
>
> *So, yeah, you were wrong, mom. But it's okay because Rock Camp turned out to be really fun.*
>
> *I miss you. Love, Max.*
>
> *P.S. I can't wait to show you all my rocks. I even earned a cool sticker.”*

If you'd like to watch this video again, replay this step. Otherwise, move on to the next step.

STEP 8

Get your Max Letter worksheet. This is the letter Max sent to his mom. He included some great information in this letter that might be useful when you're writing your letter to Hailey, trying to convince her that Rock Camp is fun.

Remember, Max wants Hailey to come back to Rock Camp with him next summer.

Read your Max Letter worksheet and take notes. You can add more notes to each activity section or write new ones.

STEP 9

Nice note taking, writers. You've learned and taken notes all about Rock Camp and three of the most popular camp activities.

It's now time to decide which two activities you want to write about in your letter to Max's best friend, Hailey. Think about which camp activities seem the most exciting or interesting to you, and something that Hailey might like as well.

Choose two activities by checking the box of the activity, like this.

STEP 10

The papers shown on screen are V.I.P.s—very important papers. Your teacher will tell you where to put them so you'll have them for the next lesson.

WRAP UP

You rock, writers! Today, you watched videos, read about camp activities, and took notes on all the cool things happening at camp. Right now in the writing process, you're here, taking notes.

In the next lesson, you'll use your notes to plan your writing. Then later, you'll draft, revise, and edit your letter to make it exactly how you want it to be.

Your letters describing all the great things about Rock Camp will help Max convince Hailey to join him when he goes back to camp next summer.

I'll see you next time.