Describing Earth's Layers

Overview:

Students write a complete paragraph describing Earth's layers. The paragraph includes a topic sentence, and at least three supporting sentences, and uses vocabulary terms.

Objectives:

The student will:

- write a complete paragraph;
- write and identify a topic sentence for a paragraph;
- write at least three supporting sentences for a paragraph; and
- demonstrate understanding of vocabulary words by using them in a paragraph.

Materials:

- Highlighters (one per student)
- STUDENT WORKSHEET: "Describing Earth's Layers"

Activity Procedure:

- 1. Ask advanced students to assist beginning students in completing clay models of Earth during the *Aurora Alive* "Earth's Layers" lesson. Review the features of each layer of Earth.
- 2. Distribute highlighters and STUDENT WORKSHEET: "Describing Earth's Layers." Ask students to write a paragraph describing Earth's layers that includes a topic sentence, at least three supporting sentences, and at least 3 vocabulary words from the Word Bank.
- 3. After students have completed their paragraphs, ask them to highlight their topic sentence and their 3 words from the Word Bank. Then, ask students to share their paragraph with a partner.

Answers to Student Worksheet:

The paragraph should describe Earth's layers, be at least four sentences long, include a topic sentence and at least 3 words from the Word Bank. The topic sentence and 3 words from the Word Bank should be highlighted in the paragraph.

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	WORD BANK	
iron and nickel	crust	Earth
mantle	molten rock	core

Directions: Describe Earth's layers. Write a **complete** paragraph including *a topic sentence*, and at least three *supporting sentences*. Use at least three words from the Word Bank in the paragraph.



Highlight the topic sentence and the three word bank words used in the paragraph you wrote.

Did you remember to:

_____ Identify topic sentence

- _____ Include 3 supporting sentences
- _____ Use 3 words from Word Bank
- ____ Identify Word Bank words