

Fighting Obstacles Activity Sheet

The Relevance Of Rust, Iron, and Steel

Just like dirt and other materials, sand differs from place to place. Even though Operation Overlord commenced at Normandy over 75 years ago, remnants of the battle can still be found under one's feet. Scientists have analyzed the sand and found bits of shrapnel up to one millimeter in size.

As beaches are in a constant state of change due to tides, winds, weather, and beachgoers, one may have thought the remnants of war would be at the bottom of the ocean by now. Another factor will eventually take over. The tiny pieces of iron shards are battling the battering of rust. When iron and oxygen connect, Iron Oxide, known as rust, begins to form.

Read the following articles to learn more about what scientists found and the relevance of rust, iron, and steel.

"The Geological Fingerprint of War" from the following link:
<https://news.utexas.edu/2012/05/25/the-geological-fingerprint-of-war/>

"Why Does Steel Rust?" from the following link:
<https://capitalsteel.net/blog/steel-faqs>

Activity Questions

1. What is the most common name for iron oxide?

2. For iron to rust, what is required?

3. Why would shrapnel be in a shard-like form?

4. Why is it important to keep steel and other metal items as unscathed as possible?

5. Why do you think stainless steel is used in cutlery?

Name _____

Date _____

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Complete the Table and Answer the Following Questions?

	COATED WITH WHAT MATERIALS	TWO PRODUCTS MADE WITH THIS TYPE
GALVANIZED		
STAINLESS		
ALUMINUM		

1. What parts of an automobile can be sensitive to rust?

2. How does this impact the value of auto maintenance?
