



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
Museum Schools

School:	Normal Park Museum Magnet	Author(s):	Emily Pittman
Lesson Title:	Follow Me Through TN: Cave Habitat	Grade Level(s):	3 rd
Standard:	SPI 0307.5.1 Investigate an organism's characteristics and evaluate how these features enable it to survive in a particular environment.	State:	Tennessee
Content Area:	Life Science	Time Duration:	Three 40 min. lessons
Learning Target:	TSW list the order of events that occur for a cave to form.	Materials:	Sugar water Mason jars Popsicle sticks
Key Vocabulary:	Deciduous adaptations	Technology Connection:	ActivBoard

Engage Now: <i>Opening</i>	TTW ask if students have ever had rock candy. TTW explain that the making of rock candy is much like the making of a cave and its formations.
Teach Now: <i>Mini Lesson</i>	TTW have students read a short article on how caves are formed, including stalactites and stalagmites.
Explore Now: <i>Independent Practice</i>	<p>TTW help students create a jar of sugar water and hang the popsicle stick into the jar. TTW have students discuss their predictions on what they think will happen to the stick. TSW need to use evidence from the text they read at the beginning of the lesson plan.</p> <p>Throughout the 3 days, TSW make and record observations of their rock candy to see if their hypothesis was correct or not.</p> <p>TSW complete the cave food chain and diagram in their Travel Journal. TSW write a paragraph about cave formations, how they occur, and the difference between them.</p>
Closing:	TSW post a sticky note on an anchor chart explaining one reason why caves are such unique ecosystems in Tennessee and why there are so many in the state.

Show Me Now: <i>Assessment</i>	TTW use the Travel Journal writing as an assessment.
Differentiation Opportunities:	TTW give students key words and help them web them together. Struggling students may choose to only write 3 sentences instead of the typical 5-6 for a regular paragraph.
Expedition Opportunities:	Students will visit Raccoon Mountain Caverns and tour the cave & see its formations.
Project-Based Learning Opportunities:	TSW complete paper collages of cave animals and formations throughout the 3 day time period using Steve Jenkins' art as inspiration.