



# High Touch High Tech®

Science Experiences That Come To You™

## Sand Observation & Seashell Imprints©

A vital part of any summer vacation to the beach is digging your toes in the sand while you search for seashells! This is more than a pretty destination, but the beach is a great place to learn some fun science!

### Supplies: (Sand Observation)

- ¼ cup playground sand
- Magnifying glass
- Paper plate

### Instructions: (Sand Observation)

1. Pour your sand onto the plate
2. Use your magnifying glass to look at it.
3. Use your hands to feel it. Rub your hand on it. Put it in your hand and let it run through.
4. Make observations on the texture, color, and appearance.

### The Science Behind It: (Sand Observation)

One of the key features of the beach is what is under your feet! Right, sand! What do you think sand is?

Sand is a type of **sedimentary rock**, which are formed at the Earth's surface from weathered debris of other rocks. Sand at the beach also can contain bits of seashells and other minerals. **Sand** is the largest particle in soil and when you rub it, it feels rough. This is because it has sharp edges. Sand does not hold many nutrients and water runs quickly through it.

If you look really close you can see all the sharp edges of sand that make it rough to touch. Imagine all the waves in the ocean rubbing against rocks and shells making new sand!

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### Supplies: (Imprints)

- Seashells (assorted)
- Aluminum foil sheet 4" x 4"

### Instructions: (Imprints)

1. Use your magnifying glass from the first experiment to explore the different seashells.
2. All of these are parts of a creature. An animal used to live in these shells!
3. Take the aluminum foil and press it on top of the seashell. Use your finger to press down the foil and trace all the grooves in the seashell.
4. Once you have completed your foil imprint, carefully remove the foil from the seashell.

### The Science Behind It: (Imprints)

Can you name something that lives in the ocean that you might find on the beach? Something with a shell maybe? While you are searching on the beach you might find shells, sand dollars, shark teeth, pieces of coral, or even star fish! All these things were at one-point living creatures or home to a living creature!



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## Images of Seashells

