

Close Reading and Text Dependent Questions in Science Curiosity Goes To the Flow (Landforms – Grade 5)

The text selection, *Curiosity Goes to the Flow*, can be found at the following link:
http://www.sciencenews.org/view/generic/id/345438/description/Curiosity_goes_to_the_flow



Look in the Student Learning Outcome Document for guidance on when this should be taught.
<http://bpscurriculumandinstruction.weebly.com/student-learning-outcomes-by-grade.html>

Curiosity goes to the flow (Landforms – Grade 5)

Student Questions

1. According to the first paragraph, what was the mission of the Curiosity rover?
2. What did the rover surprise scientists by finding quickly?
3. How are conglomerates formed?
4. List all the places where conglomerates were found.
5. Why are conglomerates robust evidence for the past existence of water?
6. What do the scientists know about the water that formed the Hottah rock, and what do they not know?
7. Now that the rover found signs of past water, what will it be used to do next?

Curiosity goes to the flow (Landforms – Grade 5) Sample Answers

- 1. According to the first paragraph, what was the mission of the Curiosity rover?**

It was to search for signs of environments that would support life.

- 2. What did the rover surprise scientists by finding quickly?**

A site that used to be wet, like an ancient streambed.

- 3. How are conglomerates formed?**

They are created when pebbles are cemented together by sediments that are wet and then dry.

- 4. List all the places where conglomerates were found.**

The landing site and the “Link” site both contained conglomerates.

- 5. Why are conglomerates robust evidence for the past existence of water?**

The only way for the pebbles that make up a conglomerate to move together to form a rock is through water transportation—they would be too heavy for wind to move.

- 6. What do the scientists know about the water that formed the Hottah rock, and what do they not know?**

They know that the water probably stemmed from a nearby canyon and was moving rapidly enough to create a floodplain, but they don’t know its source or how long it stayed on the surface of Mars.

- 7. Now that the rover found signs of past water, what will it be used to do next?**

The rover will be used to find another part of a life friendly environment—organic carbon.