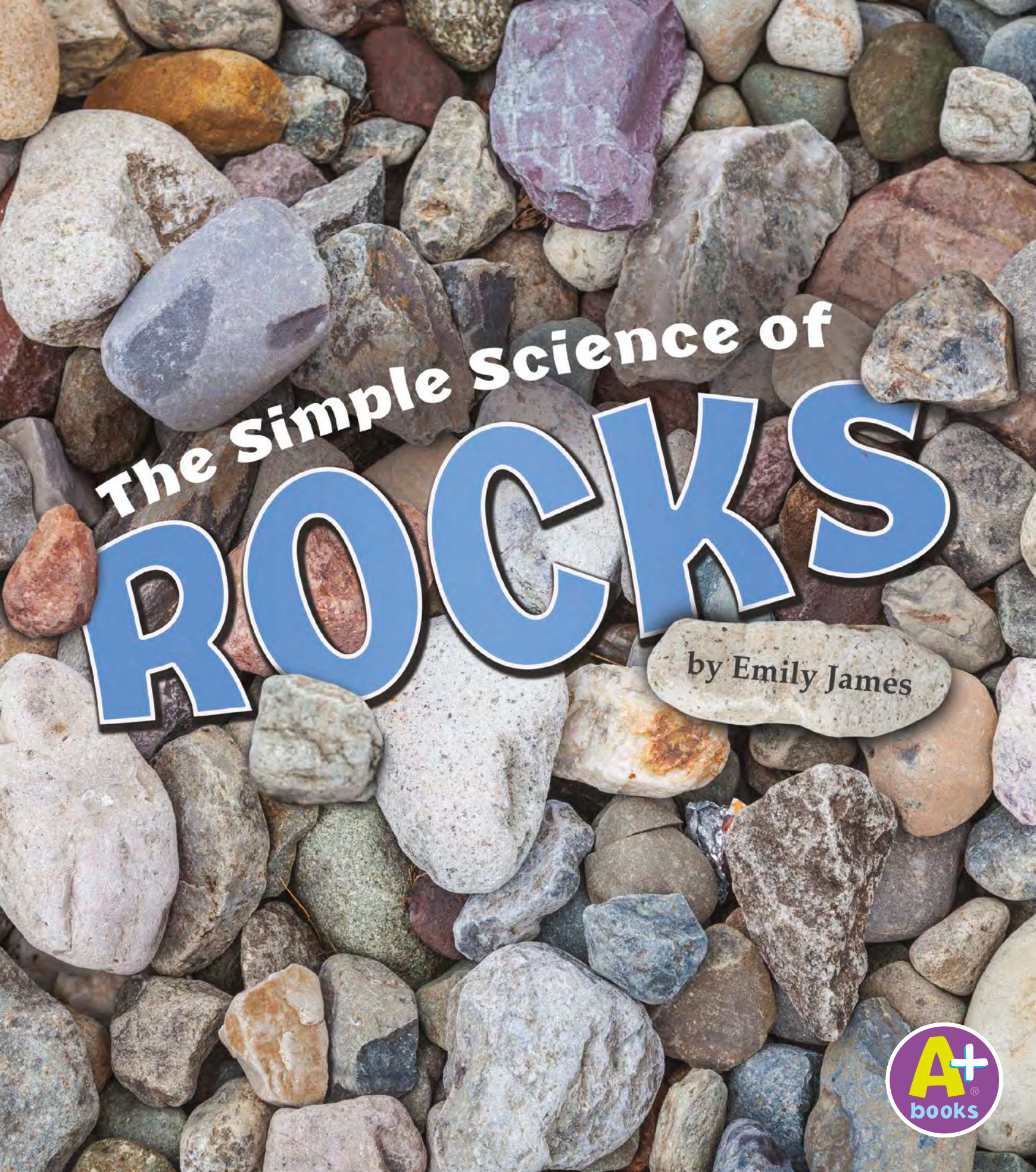




The Simple Science of
ROCKS

by Emily James

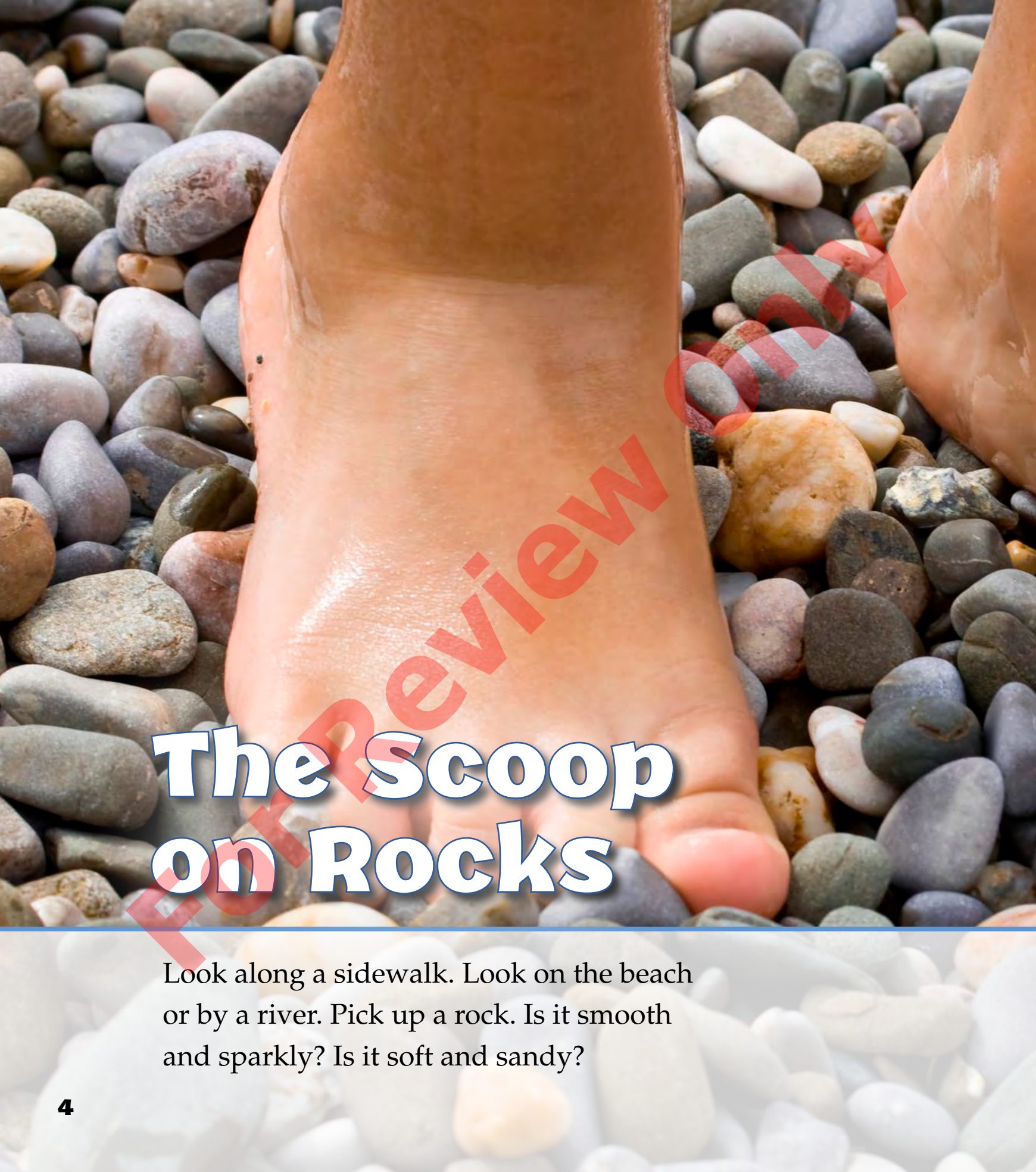


Table of CONTENTS

The Scoop on Rocks	4
What Are Rocks Made Of?	8
Igneous Rocks	10
Sedimentary Rocks	14
Metamorphic Rock	20
What Are Rocks Used For?	24

Make Rock Layers	28
Glossary	30
Read More	31
Internet Sites	31
Critical Thinking	
Questions	32
Index	32





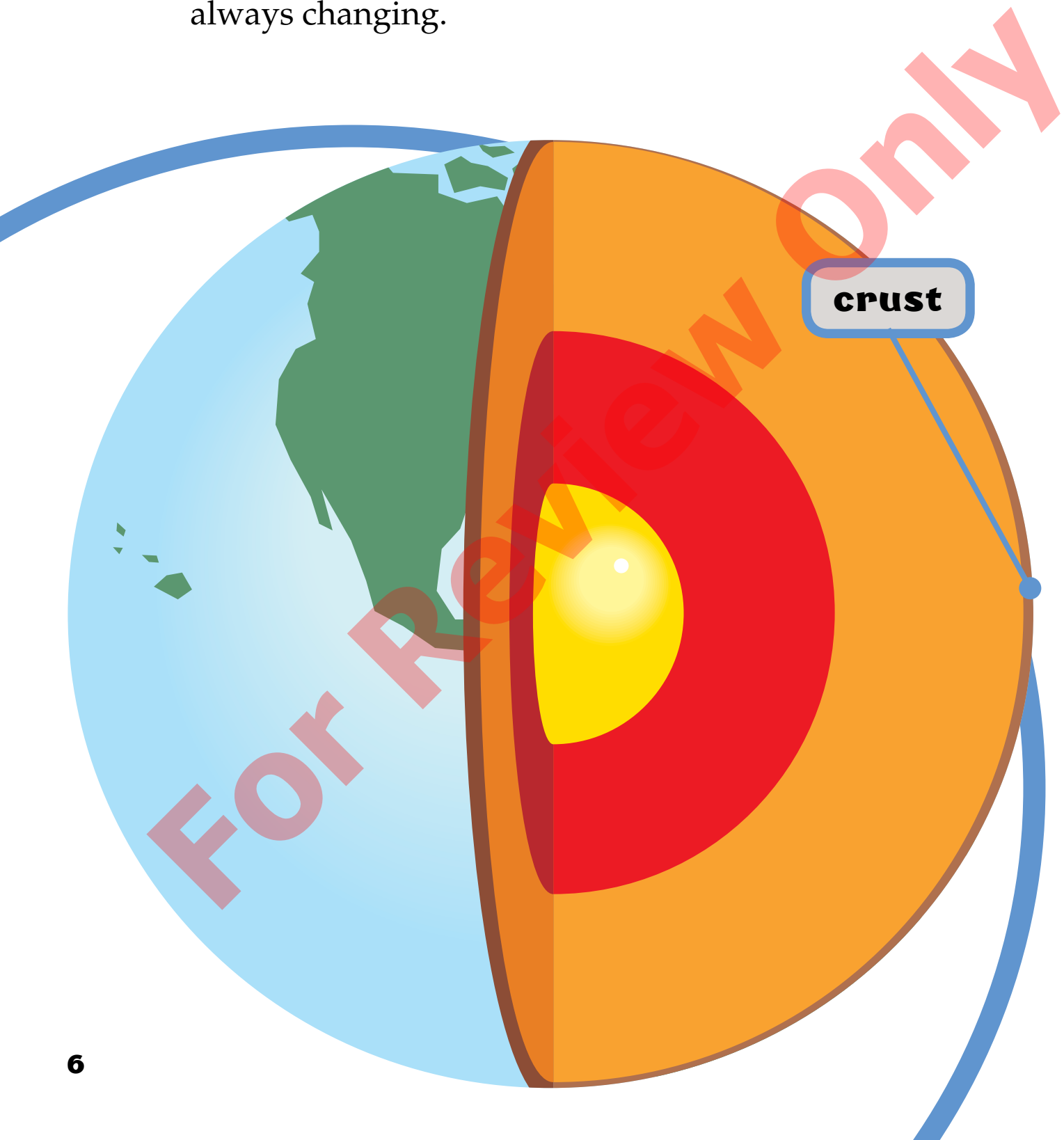
The Scoop on Rocks

Look along a sidewalk. Look on the beach or by a river. Pick up a rock. Is it smooth and sparkly? Is it soft and sandy?



Rocks are found all around the world.
Some rocks are four billion years old.
Imagine the stories they could tell!

A thick layer of rock covers Earth's surface.
This layer is called the crust. The crust is
always changing.





Wind, water, snow, and ice break up rocks. The rocks wear down. Wind and rivers carry them away. This process is called erosion. Erosion changes the shape of the land.

Make Rock Layers

Sedimentary rocks form over time. Their top layer presses down on lower layers. After many years the layers at the bottom turn into rock. Try this experiment to see how gravity helps form the layers of sedimentary rock.



What You Need:

pebbles
dirt
glass bowl
water
spoon



What You Do:

- Place the pebbles and dirt in a glass bowl.
- Add water until the bowl is almost full.
- Stir the contents of the bowl.
- Let the bowl sit for 10 minutes.

What happens to the contents of the bowl? Based on what you see, do you think the pebbles or dirt are heavier? How do you know? What part did gravity play in this experiment?

