



Fifth Grade Field Investigation Notebook

**Majestic Caverns
Fifth Grade Field Investigation Notebook**

Subtitle:

Observe. Investigate. Explain.

Student Name: _____

School: _____

Date: _____

Today you are not just visiting a cave.
You are acting as a scientist and historian studying how
natural systems and human decisions shape the world.

PRE-VISIT THINKING

Before We Go...

Answer in complete thoughts.

1. What do you think causes rocks and minerals to form underground?

2. How might humans accidentally damage natural places?

3. Why would explorers travel into unknown environments?

PART 1 — MATTER & ITS INTERACTIONS

Investigation: Why Do Materials Behave Differently?

Predict

Circle one:

- Heavy objects always sink
- Heavy objects sometimes sink
- Weight alone does not determine sinking

Explain your thinking:

Observe Inside the Cave

List 3 different materials you see:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Which seems most dense? Why?

Explain (CER)

Claim:

Density affects how materials behave in water and natural environments.

Evidence (what did you observe?):

Reasoning (why does your evidence support your claim?):

PART 2 — EARTH & HUMAN ACTIVITY

Investigation: Protect or Damage?

As you move through the cavern, record examples.

Observation	Human Action	Helpful or Harmful	Why

Engineering Thinking

Choose ONE problem:

- Foot traffic damaging formations
 - Unmanaged wild cave
 - Litter or pollution

Design a solution:

My Solution:

How it helps the environment:
