



## SANDSTONE QUARRY, AN ANCIENT SANDBOX

Visit Sandstone Quarry, 3 miles from the Visitor Center along the Scenic Drive. Walk to the big red rocks. Run your hand across a red rock. How does it feel? Sharp \_\_\_\_\_ Smooth \_\_\_\_\_ Rough \_\_\_\_\_ Warm \_\_\_\_\_ Cold \_\_\_\_\_

Look to the top of the rocks. Imagine that this was once a giant sand pile. Over a long time, the grains of sand were stuck together by minerals to make these red and white rocks. Now the sun, rain, and cold are slowly breaking down the sandstone. The sand grains fall to the ground or wherever the wind blows them. Look around for sand on the ground. Write down a word that tells how it feels.

Would you like it for your sandbox? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Walk down the short trail with an adult. Look at the big blocks of sandstone cut out of the rock. What shape are they? Square \_\_\_\_\_ Rectangle \_\_\_\_\_ Circle \_\_\_\_\_

A long time ago people cut the red and white rocks and took them out to make buildings. They used a big steam engine to pull the rocks out to the road. The steam engine used too much fuel and other sandstone was found closer to the railroad so cutting and hauling were stopped. Now that Red Rock Canyon is a National Conservation Area, rocks and plants may not be removed by anyone.

Stand next to a big sandstone block. Is it taller than you? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Can you put your arms around it? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Are you glad that these rocks will not be taken away? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

WHY? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

