



INVESTIGATING ROCKS

KS 2 SCIENCE

<p>Learning Objectives During this Day Course pupils should learn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ That rocks are used for a variety of purposes because of their characteristics. ✓ That rocks can be grouped according to observable characteristics such as appearance and texture. ✓ That differences between rocks can be identified by testing, such as for hardness and permeability. ✓ How rocks, fossils and soils are formed. ✓ To use scientific vocabulary connected with rocks.
<p>Pupils will also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Learn safely in a new environment. ✓ Gain an appreciation of the environment and understand their role in caring for it.

<p>Day Course Programme</p>
<p>Introduction: On arrival a CEES teacher will welcome your group to CEES' study centre at Burwell House and describe the day's programme and the learning objectives. An illustrated talk will then be used to demonstrate the importance of rocks in our everyday lives, and to consider how rocks and fossils were formed.</p>
<p>Session A: During this rocks workshop pupils will work in small groups to sort sets of rock samples according to features such as appearance and texture. Microscopes will be used to aid observation. Pupils will carry out tests for hardness and permeability to identify suitable rocks for different purposes. Rocks will then be classified and named.</p>
<p>Session B: This session will include a rocks trail and soil making outside in the grounds, an investigation into the uses of rocks in the built environment and a visit to a nearby brick making works.</p>
<p>Plenary: The group will reflect on their day and consider how well the learning objectives have been met.</p>
<p>Note: The actual programme may vary depending on number and needs of pupils, length of visit and weather conditions.</p>

<p>Adult : Pupil ratios For this course CEES' recommended ratio for safety is 1 : 8 Additional adults may be needed with classes where individual pupils need 1 : 1 support.</p>
<p>Other information Please see separate guidance notes on safe and effective day courses, including information on clothing and equipment. NB Please arrange for your bus to be available during the afternoon to transport the group the short distance to the brick works.</p>

<p>Relevant extracts from CEES risk assessments See also separate guidance notes on safe and effective day courses.</p>	
Hazard	Control measures
Extreme weather conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CEES staff are aware of daily weather forecast. • Alternative venues or activities are substituted if weather conditions are particularly unfavourable. • In extreme cases, where guidance notes on clothing have not been complied with, pupils may be excluded from activities.
Uneven ground, low branches on trees, steep slopes, steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils and adults are made aware of expected standards of behaviour and, for example pupils are instructed to walk, not run, to look ahead, and to stay close to their supervisory adult.
Handling rocks and soils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protective gloves or plasters are provided for pupils who have open cuts or skin problems. • Pupils are instructed to wash hands thoroughly after handling rocks and soils.
Unfamiliar countryside surroundings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adults supervise directly, for example walking beside the group and regularly checking that all are present. • Pupils are made aware of safe standards of behaviour when in a quarry.