



# INVESTIGATING ROCKS

KS 2 SCIENCE (OCA 3D)

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

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| <p align="center"><b>Day Course Programme</b></p> <p align="center">Where 2 classes are attending the course the introductory session will be common to both. Classes will then separate and sessions A and B will be interchangeable am and pm.</p>  |
| <p><b>Introduction:</b> On arrival a member of CEES staff will welcome your group to the Centre 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><b>Session A:</b> This session takes place at the centre where 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 building houses. Rocks will then be classified and named.</p>   |
| <p><b>Session B:</b> For this session the group will walk to a disused limestone quarry at the Upware Centre's unique nature reserve. Here they will discover the rock that lies beneath the ground surface, and, by hunting for Jurassic fossil shells and coral, find evidence to prove that the rock was once under the sea. They will then investigate soil-forming processes. Samples of soil from several sites may be collected for taking back to school for further study.</p> |
| <p><b>Plenary:</b> The group will reflect on their day and consider how well the learning objectives have been met.</p>   |
| <p><b>Note:</b> The actual programme may vary depending on number and needs of pupils, length of visit and weather conditions.</p>  |

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| <p><b>Adult : Pupil ratios</b><br/>For this course CEES' recommended ratio for safety is<br/><b>1 : 8</b><br/>Additional adults may be needed with classes where individual pupils need 1 : 1 support.</p> |
| <p><b>Other information</b><br/>Please see separate guidance notes on safe and effective day courses, including information on clothing and equipment.</p>   |

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