



INVESTIGATING ROCKS

KS 2 Science (QCA 3D)

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

<p align="center">Day Course Programme</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>Introduction: 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 introductory presentation will then be used to show the importance of rocks in our everyday lives, and to consider how rocks and fossils were formed.</p>
<p>Session A: This session takes place in the study 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>Session B: This session looks at the use of rocks in the built environment. Working in small groups, pupils will examine the exterior of the buildings around Wisbech Castle and will examine rocks in the church and churchyard. At Wisbech Museum, each group will use displays of fossils for close observational drawing and to uncover interesting facts about rocks and the past. In the Castle grounds soils will be examined and soil forming processes investigated.</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.</p>

<p align="center">Relevant extracts from CEES risk assessments</p> <p align="center">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 are provided for pupils who have open cuts or skin problems. • Pupils are instructed to wash hands thoroughly after handling rocks and soils.
Stranger danger	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils are instructed to stay close to their supervisory adult.
Road traffic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils are warned about road danger and given instructions for crossing roads safely and under close supervision e.g. at recognised crossing points and where visibility is good in both directions.