

ROCKS & SOILS

Age range: Y3 –Y6

Duration: Full day (10.00 – 14.30).

Locations available: Longdendale, Macclesfield Forest, Longshaw.

This programme allows learners to experience being geologists for the day, learning about rock and soil formation and properties through hands-on activities. Activities provided as part of the day include:

- Discovering the four rock types found in the peak district, and conducting an investigation to categorise them based on their properties
- A rock drama activity to learn about rock formation.
- Exploring the outdoor environment to find rocks and soils in the landscape.
- Trying to make their own soil!

Main Curriculum Links:

Geography Rocks, soils, fossils
Science practical enquiry, working scientifically, properties of materials
Physical Education Outdoor activity

| Key Learning Objectives | Learning Outcomes |
|---|---|
| Geography <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fieldwork skills, including making observations about the landscape • Asking and answering geographical questions. | All children will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notice differences and similarities between different types of rocks • Describe some of the ‘ingredients’ of soil |
| Science <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compare and group together different kinds of rocks on the basis of their appearance and simple physical properties • Recognise that soils are made from rocks and organic matter. setting up simple practical enquiries, comparative and fair test. | Most children will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use results to draw simple conclusions about properties of rocks • Describe how soil is made |
| Other skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listening to and following instructions • Looking carefully/observational skills • Using equipment accurately • Working independently and as part of a group. • Problem solving | Some children will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Categorise and identify different types of rocks • Explain the three different types of rock (sedimentary, metamorphic, igneous) • Describe different soil horizons |

Other important information:

Assessment for Learning

We continually assess learning using a variety of techniques appropriate to the activity such as questioning, games, observations and checking results

Ideas for Extending Learning Before/After the Visit

Before:

Locate the peak district on a map, and discuss what the environment is like
 Look for where rocks and soils are used around the school grounds and local area

After:

Examine the rock types around school – are they the same or different from the ones in the Peak District?
 Explore different soil types, for example, compost and soil from the school grounds.

See our teacher’s resource pages for more information and ideas: <https://www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/learning-about/peak-curriculum/rocks-and-soils>