

Rock of ages . . .

Investigating Rocks at KS2



CEES at Burwell House

If requested a “mix & match” programme of learning activities from different day courses may be selected.

At KS1 & 2, CEES Day Course themes at Stibbington Centre, Burwell House, Wisbech Castle and Vine House Farm include:

Science

Exploring the environment
Rocks & soils
Energy & renewables
Habitats & food chains
Plants & minibeasts
Crime Scene Investigation

Geography

Map skills & location
Weather & climate
Exploring a locality
Rivers & water

History

Romans Vikings
Victorians WWI
WWII Evacuation

Art & design

Eco Art & the environment

English & maths

. . . outdoors

Contact details for further information

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Day Course Information:

Curriculum focus - Science

Aims

- ✓ To learn about how rocks, soils and fossils are formed
- ✓ To group rocks according to observable characteristics such as appearance and texture
- ✓ To investigate differences between rocks by testing for hardness and/or permeability
- ✓ To discover that rocks are used for a variety of purposes because of their characteristics
- ✓ To make systematic observations using a range of equipment
- ✓ To use scientific evidence to answer questions
- ✓ To record findings using simple scientific language

Programme

The actual programme may vary depending on number and needs of pupils, length of visit and weather conditions on the day.

Welcome

On arrival a CEES teacher will welcome your group to Burwell House and describe the day's programme. An introductory demonstration will show on the importance of rocks in our everyday lives.

Morning

Rocks investigations:

- Sort rock samples according to features such as appearance and texture, using microscopes to aid observation.
- Test for permeability and/or hardness to identify suitable rocks for different purposes.
- Classify rocks into igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks.

Afternoon

- Follow a rocks trail around the grounds.
- Simulate soil forming processes.
- Discover uses of rocks in the built environment of Burwell village and observe weathering in action.
- Use clay to make models of fossils

Review The day will end with the CEES Rock Song, and prior to departure there will be an opportunity to review and reflect on the day.

Risk management

See separate “**Guidance notes for safe and effective Day Courses**”

Supervision: For this Day Course our recommended adult:pupil ratio for safety is 1:8 in pre-arranged working groups.

Weather conditions: CEES teachers are aware of daily weather forecasts and may adjust programmes depending on weather conditions on the day. See separate guidance on outdoor clothing and footwear.

Site conditions: CEES teachers will draw attention to any relevant risks.

Equipment: Instructions are given on the safe use of all equipment.

Unfamiliar surroundings: Pupils are made aware of safe standards of behaviour and are closely supervised by adults at all times.