

Rock of ages... Investigating Rocks at KS2



CEES in schools

If requested a “mix & match” programme of learning activities from different workshops 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 WW1
WW2 Evacuation

Art & design

Eco Art & the environment

English & maths

... outdoors

Contact details for further information

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School Workshop 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 workshop, and weather conditions on the day. This is a half day workshop, however where there are 3 classes involved then three slightly shorter workshops may be arranged on a single day.

Introduction

An illustrated talk will be used to demonstrate the importance of rocks in our everyday lives, and explain the formation of rocks, minerals and fossils.

Rocks investigations

- Sort rock samples according to features such as appearance and texture.
- Use microscopes to aid observation.
- Test rocks for hardness and/or permeability.
- Classify rocks into igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks.
- Simulate soil forming processes in the school grounds.

Review Prior to departure there will be an opportunity to review and reflect on the workshop.

Risk management

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

Supervision: For this workshop our recommended adult:pupil ratio for safety is 1:15 in pre-arranged working groups.

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