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SCIENCE	ROCKS	YEAR 3/4

Cross curricular links

Building on prior knowledge of the stone age

Working scientifically

To make systemic and careful observations

To take accurate measurements (where appropriate)

To look for naturally occurring patterns and relationships

To identify differences, similarities or changes related to simple scientific ideas and processes

Pictures/photos relevant to topic

Key skills

Compare/group together different kinds of rocks on the basis of appearance and simple physical properties

Describe in simple terms how fossils are formed

Recognise that soils are made from rocks and organic matter

Make careful observations

Identify differences, similarities or changes related to simple scientific ideas and processes

Use results to draw simple conclusions

Key Vocabulary/definitions

Fossils: the remains of a living creature or plant that was persevered in rock

Grains: the particles that make up all rocks

Crystals: transparent quartz found in rocks

Decompose: the breakdown of organic materials

Earth's crusts: the outer layer of the planet's core

Igneous rock: formed from melted rock deep inside the Earth

Sedimentary rock: formed from layers of sand, silt, dead plants and animal skeletons.

Metamorphic: formed from other rocks that are changed by heat and pressure underground.

Useful Information

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	Types of rock include: igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic. A fossil is formed over thousands of years. Scientists discover facts about history through looking at fossils: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3rkGu0BItKM – Video explaining what fossils are http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TVwPLWOo9TE – Video explaining how fossils are formed http://www.ehow.com/how_8541080_make-easy-fossils-glue-playdoh.html - How to make your own fossil at home