

Year 3 Rocks

National Curriculum

Pupils should be taught to:

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

Describe in simple terms how fossils are formed when things that have lived are trapped within rock.

Recognise that soils are made from rocks and organic matter

Misconceptions

Not True

- Bricks and concrete are rocks.
- Rocks don't change.
- Soil is just dirt.
- Fossils are all the same.

True

- Rocks are naturally occurring materials. Bricks and concrete may look as hard as rocks, but are made by humans. They are not rocks.
- Rocks do change. Different processes cause them to change, including heat and pressure as well as erosion and weathering.
- Soil is made up of many parts, including organic matter, rock fragments and minerals.
- There are different types of fossils. Body fossils are the most common. Trace fossils are rarer such as footprints of living things.

Big Questions

- How are rocks formed?
- What types of rocks are there?
- Can rocks change?
- How can we test a rock to see if it is limestone or chalk?
- Is soil just dirt? What makes soil?
- How are fossils formed?

Vocabulary

Cemented
Compacted, Decay
Prehistoric, Soil
Transform, Fossil
Igneous, Magma
Metamorphic
Minerals
Sedimentary

Prior Learning

Year 1 Everyday materials

Year 2 Uses of everyday materials