

Unit Overview	This unit is linked to the geography and history the children will be studying. Children should explore and become familiar with the different types of rocks and soils in the local environment and beyond. They should look at different uses of rocks, and visit the local cemetery to observe the different types of rock used. Children investigate fossils and what information these can give us about the past.		
Prior Learning/ Links	EY – dinosaurs and fossils KS1 – investigating materials. Rocks and soils are natural materials.		
Unit Title:	Substantive Knowledge	Disciplinary Knowledge	
Key Questions: Which would be the best rock to use to build a statue? Why are some statues and gravestones wearing away? How is a fossil made? Is soil all the same?	 There are 3 main types of rock: sedimentary, metamorphic and igneous. Rocks have been developed over many thousands of years under the ground. Children can use criteria to test and group rocks and can use scientific language to describe and compare them. Children know that some rocks are very strong and so can be used for one purpose. Some rocks are soft and suit other purposes: marble/ chalk. Children will know how fossils are formed through creatures dying and their skeletons being buried by sediment over a long period of time. Know that soils are made from different types of rocks and other organic matter. To understand the difference between organic and inorganic. Investigate different types of soil and describe them: sandy soil, clay soil, chalky soils, peat Children know different areas of land have different types of rocks and 	Questioning and Planning How do we test to see which group a rock belongs in? Observation and Measurement Make careful observations when conducting a test Measure carefully the decrease in size of rocks when conducting a test. Recording and Presenting Record carefully the observations of a test Research using testing and secondary sources and present findings to others. Analysing and Evaluating Making suggestions as to what rocks would be suited to a task and why.	
	soils, which in turn can affect what is grown and where as plants have different soil needs.	Making observations and forming conclusions using evidence.	
Vocabulary	Trips/ Visits/Useful Websites/ Resources	Key Misconceptions:	
Substantive: Rock		That all rocks are hard.	
Soil	Year 3: Rocks STEM		
Sedimentary			
Metamorphic Igneous Fossil	Rocks - KS2 Science - BBC Bitesize		



Science Unit Planner Year: 3 Title: Rocks and Soils

Organic matter	
Minerals	
Sand	
Clay	
harden	
Erosion	
Magma	
Solidify	
dissolve	
Disciplinary:	
Observe	
Question	
Analyse	
Question	
	1