

Knowledge Organiser: Year 2 Autumn Term

Key Learning

- Rock is a naturally occurring material.
- There are different types of rock e.g. sandstone, limestone, slate etc. with different properties.
- Rocks can be hard or soft.
- They have different sizes of grain or crystal.
- They may absorb water.
- Rocks can be different shapes and sizes.
- Soils are made up of pieces of ground down rock which may be mixed with plant and animal material (organic matter).
- Some rocks contain fossils. Fossils were formed millions of years ago. When plants and animals died, they fell to the seabed. They became covered and squashed by other material. Over time the dissolving animal and plant matter is replaced by minerals from the water.

Prior learning:

- Distinguish between an object and the material from which it is made.
- Identify and name a variety of everyday materials, including wood, plastic, glass, metal, water, and rock.
- Describe the simple physical properties of a variety of everyday materials.
- Compare and group together a variety of everyday materials on the basis of their simple physical properties.
- Identify and compare the suitability of a variety of everyday materials, including wood, metal, plastic, glass, brick, rock, paper and cardboard for particular uses.

Related Texts:

The Pebble in My Pocket: A History of Our Earth

Rocks & Soils

Common

Misconceptions

Some children may think...

- rocks are all hard in nature
- rock-like, man-made substances such as concrete or brick are rocks
- materials which have been polished or shaped for use, such as a granite worktop, are not rocks as they are no longer 'natural'
- certain found artefacts, like old bits of pottery or coins, are fossils
- a fossil is an actual piece of the extinct animal or plant
- soil and compost are the same thing.

Key Vocabulary

Rock	The solid mineral material forming part of the earth's surface exposed on the surface or underlying the soil or oceans.
stone	A rock of any size
pebble	A small stone made smooth and round by the action of water or sand.
boulder	A large rock, typically one that has been worn smooth by erosion.
grain	A small particle of rock.
crystals	A solid substance having a natural geometrically regular form with symmetrically arranged plane faces.
layers	A sheet, quantity, or thickness of material, typically one of several, covering a surface.
texture	How a surface looks and feels.
absorb water	Take in or soak up water.
soil	The upper layer of earth in which plants grow, a black or dark brown material made of a mixture of organic remains, clay, and rock particles.
fossil	Any preserved remains, impression, or trace of any once-living thing from a past geological age.
marble	A metamorphic rock.
chalk	A soft white limestone formed from the remains of sea creatures.
granite	Granite is a coarse-grained igneous rock
sandstone	A sedimentary rock
slate	A dense fine-grained metamorphic rock
peat	Like soil but formed by the partial decomposition of vegetable matter in the wet acidic conditions of bogs and fens
sandy/chalk/ clay soil	Types of soil

