

TEACHER NOTES

Science - Properties and Change of Materials

Fossils - Clues from the past



Contextual Summary

This is a curriculum-based Science resource that enables students to learn how fossils are formed, and how sedimentary rocks are important in the fossilisation process. The resource highlights the processes of change involved, and highlights type of fossils other than dinosaur-related ones. Students engage with one type of fossil and this could be the foundation for further fossil studies or projects back in the classroom. This curriculum area is a core part of Science within the 2014 National Curriculum and, in Scotland, Curriculum for Excellence. The resource is aimed at upper and lower key stage 2.

The resource links to fossils found on the Isle of Wight specifically, ensuring relevance on the visit for students whilst ensuring the wider curricular relevance is maintained. Questions have been chosen because they link directly with the key curriculum areas.

Task Implementation

It is suggested to teachers that they introduce the topic of fossilisation before the visit, so the subject matter is familiar and they have an understanding of sediment, the rock cycle and key stages of fossilisation.

If prepared, students should be keen to find the answers to the questions.

This task could also be extended as a project, focusing on one type of fossil or a group of organisms, based on a specific area of interest.

Ability Levels

There are 4 versions of this resource, one low and one high ability resource for both upper and lower key stage 2.

These could be adapted further by teachers if required, i.e. for SEN. For example, students could be tasked with giving fewer responses, or responding to areas that interest them the most, or perhaps work in teams to find the answers. Additionally, teachers can choose to use any of the four available resources to challenge or support their students as appropriate.

Key skills practised in this unit:

- Understanding of the process of fossilisation
- Interpretation of ammonite or other fossil information
- Identifying characteristics of an organism through study of their fossil.

Relationship to Curriculum

The above skills are required to be taught and practised as per the National Curriculum, for Science key stage 2 (lower and upper).

SUBJECT

Science

UNIT

Properties and Change of Materials

OPPORTUNITIES FOR USE

- ✗ Pre-Visit
- ✓ On-Site Activity
- ✗ Post-Visit
- ✗ Peripheral Task



25-45 Mins

APPLICABILITY



KS2U, KS2L



P4-P7

CURRICULUM / SYLLABUS

- ✓ National Curriculum 2014
- ✓ Curriculum for Excellence

Applies to Resources numbered:

1	0	2	3	1	1
1	0	2	3	1	2
1	0	2	3	1	3
1	0	2	3	1	4

Learning Opportunities

Pre-Visit

This resource could be used as a prompt for pre-visit research, but is designed to work in conjunction with the museum visit.

During the Visit

Completion of the resource/s linked to this document: *Fossils: Clues from the past*

Resource ID: **102311** (KS2L low ability), **102312** (KS2L high ability),

102313 (KS2U low ability), **102314** (KS2U high ability)

Post Visit

Follow-up tasks could include:

- ▶ Whole class discussion about the responses to the questions
- ▶ Groups presenting back their collated responses to the class
- ▶ Projects on Isle of Wight fossils or a specific organism of particular interest

Enrichment Opportunities

Students will experience a museum-environment and be able to learn about and handle fossils, thus enhancing their understanding of the key processes.

Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to demonstrate their ability to understand the fossilisation process in relation to the Isle of Wight and its fossil richness, identifying key stages of fossilisation, and considering their own and others' interpretation of what fossils can tell us about living organisms.

For further details visit www.edudest.uk and click:

- ▶ *Resource Finder* - to locate specific resources identified above
- ▶ *Venue Finder* - to learn more about education at this venue
- ▶ *Subject Finder* - to find other relevant Isle of Wight venues

