

Year 3 Term 2 – Gifts from the ground

	Activities	National Curriculum objectives/skills
Main subjects	Science	This topic allows children to explore different kinds of rock, including gemstones, and soil, including those found in the local environment (Geography link) They will work scientifically by observing rocks and exploring how and why they might have changed over time. They will use hand lenses and microscopes to help identify and classify rocks according to whether they have grains or crystals and whether they have fossils in them. They will research and discuss different kinds of living things whose fossils are found in sedentary rock and explore how fossils are formed. Pupils may explore different soils, identifying difference and similarities and ask questions about how soil is formed, what happens when rocks are rubbed together and what changes occur when they are in water.
Hook for Learning	The Big Dig	Children will carry out an archaeological dig in the school forest area
Trip	Visit to The National Stone Centre	Activities include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gem Panning • Soil Study • Fossil. • Study of rocks/minerals
Key texts/class reader	The Mammoth Mistake Mary Anning's diary	Use knowledge to read 'exception' words Read range of fiction & non-fiction Use dictionaries to check meaning Check own understanding of reading Draw inferences & make predictions Retrieve & record information from non-fiction books Discuss reading with others
Writing purpose	To inform through recount and diary	Use prefixes & suffixes in spelling Use dictionary to confirm spellings Write simple dictated sentences Use handwriting joins appropriately Plan to write based on familiar forms Rehearse sentences orally for writing Use varied rich vocabulary Create simple settings & plot Assess effectiveness of own and others' writing Use range of conjunctions Use perfect tense Use range of nouns & pronouns Use time connectives Know language of clause
Science	Classification of rock types Simple understanding of fossilisation	Compare and group together different kinds of rock 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 rock and organic matter
Art	Close observational drawing of rocks and stones Use of rock/stone in works of art – Andy Goldsworthy Fossil plaster casting	Use sketchbooks to collect, record and evaluate ideas Improve mastery of techniques such as drawing techniques.
Music	Christmas concert	Use voice & instruments with increasing accuracy, control and expression □ Improvise & compose music
PE and games	Sports hall athletics Invasion Games	Develop flexibility & control in gym, dance & athletics □ Compare performances to achieve personal bests Play competitive games, modified as appropriate
RE	What do religions teach about the natural world and why should we look after it? Or What are the deeper meanings of festivals?	Begin to show some awareness of similarities in religions; Retell religious stories (AT1) Ask and respond sensitively to questions about their own and others' experiences and feelings in relation to religion and belief Suggest meanings for religious actions and symbols (AT1) In relation to matters of right and wrong, recognise their own values and those of others (AT2)
JigsawPSHE	Celebrating difference	
MFL	French	Listen & engage Ask & answer questions Speak in sentences using familiar vocabulary
Computing		