The Marist Primary School

Knowledge Organiser

Year 3: Spring

Rocks and Soil



Builds on and leads to...

Enquiry/skills

Builds on:

- identify and name a variety of everyday materials, including rock
- describe the physical properties of a variety of everyday materials
- compare and group everyday materials on the basis of their physical properties

Leads to:

 recognising that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago

- Ask relevant questions and use different types of scientific enquiries to answer them
- Set up simple practical enquiries and fair tests
- Making careful observations
- reporting on findings from fair tests
- using results to draw simple conclusions

What will I know by the end of the unit?

- I can compare and group together different kinds of rocks on the basis of their appearance and simple physical properties.
- I can describe how fossils are formed when things that have lived are trapped within rock.
- I can recognise that soils are made from rocks and organic matter.

∣ Vocabulary	
Mine	A pit in the ground from which minerals (gold, chalk, diamonds etc) are taken.
S Appearance	What something looks like.
Rock	Rocks are made when mineral grains grow or are fused together.
Igneous rocks	When molten rock, or magma, cools down, 'igneous' rock is formed - like granite.
Sedimentary rocks	Are made from other bits of broken up rocks and the remains of animals and plants- like sandstone.
Metamorphic rocks	Are made when sedimentary rocks and igneous rocks experience intense heat and pressure.
Geologist	A person who studies rocks.
Permeable	Allows liquids or gases to pass through it.
Impermeable	Does not allow liquids or gases to pass through it.
Soil	Soil is a mixture of tiny particles of rock, dead plants and animals, air and water.
Clay soil	Usually sticky and has small particles.
Sandy soil	Pale in colour and have large particles.
Peaty soil	Doesn't contain any rock particles. It is made from very old decayed plants.
Chalky soil	Light brown in colour.

Diagrams / Maps / Images







