



# Fossils

Year 3

## Knowing More, Remembering More

### Remembering Previous Learning

**What is a rock?** Rocks are a natural material found on and underneath the Earth's surface.

**What is a stone?** A stone is a small rock.

**What is a pebble?** A pebble is a small smooth rock, shaped by water.

**How can rocks be grouped by what they look like?** Some rocks have grains, some have crystals, some have layers.

**What are the different properties of rocks?** Some are hard, some react with acid, some are brittle, some float and some sink.

## In this unit, children will:

- describe in simple terms how fossils are formed when things that have lived are trapped within a rock.

## Working Scientifically:

- 3.1 Ask questions and understand there are different enquiry types they could use to answer them.
- 3.10 Report on findings from enquiries, including oral and written explanations.

## Key Learning Steps:

1. Explore fossils.
2. Fossil formation.

## Key Vocabulary:

- fossil
- rock
- skeleton
- shell
- fossilisation
- rock
- sediment

## Key Scientists:



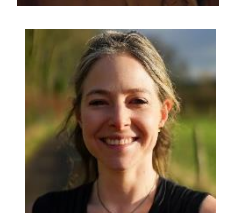
### Classic

**Mary Anning** (1799 - 1847)  
English fossil collector and palaeontologist.



### Classic

**James Hutton** (1726 - 1797)  
Scottish chemist known as the father of modern geology.



### Contemporary

**Alice Roberts**  
English historian, biologist and anthropologist who studies fossils.

## Knowing More, Remembering More

### Knowing More in Year 3

**What is a fossil?** The remains/trace of a living thing (animals or plants) that lived a long time ago.

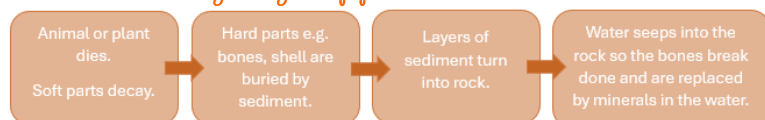
**Which parts of an animal usually turn into a fossil?** Shells, bones and sometimes animal footprints.

**What is sediment?** Soil, sand, gravel and small pieces of rock.

**Why are fossils useful for scientists?** They help them to discover about living things from the past.

**What is fossilisation?** The process that explains how a fossil is formed.

**What are the key stages of fossilisation?**



**How long does fossilisation take?** Thousands of years.