



Soils

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.

What is a habitat? A habitat is where a plant or animal lives and provides everything needed to survive.

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

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

In this unit, children will:

- recognise that soils are made from rocks and organic matter.

Key Vocabulary:

- soil
- sandy soil
- clay soil
- peat soil
- chalky soil
- organic matter
- nutrients
- habitat loss
- deforestation
- habitat
- independent variable
- dependent variable
- controlled variable
- filter paper
- filter funnel
- absorb
- conclusion
- evaluation
- data

Working Scientifically:

- 3.7 Carry out tests and simple experiments and take measurements using standard units.
- 3.8 Gather and record data in different ways to help answer questions.
- 3.9 Recording findings using simple scientific language, drawings, labelled diagrams, bar charts, and tables.
- 3.12 Use results, findings or observations to answer questions.
- 3.13 Make simple conclusions.

Key Learning Steps:

1. Explore soil
2. The importance of soil
3. Plan - soil experiment
4. Investigate - soil experiment
5. Evaluate - soil experiment

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 the evolution of the human body.

Knowing More, Remembering More

Knowing more in Y3

What is organic matter? The remains of dead plants and animals.

What is soil? A mixture of rocks, organic matter and water.

What are the different types of soil? Sandy, chalk, clay and peat.

Why do plants need soil? Soil provides nutrients for plants.

What does soil provide animals with? Soils can act as a habitat for many small animals.

What impact has human activity had on soil? Soils absorb water. When humans remove soils, it can cause flooding.