

Unit 3D: Rocks and Soils



Learnanywhere

Rocks and Soils



Some useful words

Slate -

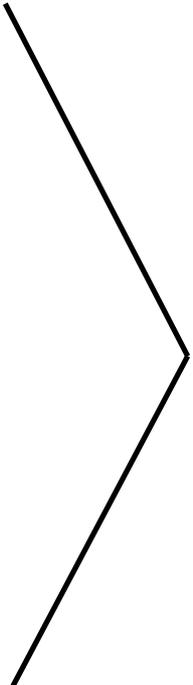
Marble -

Chalk -

Granite -

Sand -

Clay -



The names of
different rocks

Texture - how the surface of a rock would feel

Absorbent - a rock that will soak up water

Uses of Rocks



Grouping Rocks



For each of the rocks available make as many observations as you can. Record the details in a table

Rock type	Size of particles	Shape of particles	Colours on the rock	Texture of the rock

Testing Rocks

We can test rocks to compare them

1) Rubbing test - we can rub 2 rocks together to see how easily they are worn away.

Take 2 rocks of the same type and rub them together. Collect and examine any particles that are formed.

Rank your rocks in order of ease of wearing away.

Which rock is the hardest?

2) Permeability - absorption test. Drop small amounts of water onto each rock to see if any is soaked up.

You will only need very small amounts of water, note how quickly the water is soaked up by each rock.

Different Rocks different uses

Granite



doesn't wear away

Marble



is attractive

Slate



weather-proof

Where are all the rocks?



Observing Soils



Use the equipment provided to separate the soil particles, write down any observations you can about each soil sample

Soil type	Size of particles	Shape of particles	Colours on the rock	Texture of the rock

Water flowing through soil



Why do puddles stay in some places longer than others?

Different Rocks, different soil

Chalk



Clay



...cont



You are to investigate the relationship between type of soil and how easily water flows through the soil.

What will you measure?

How much water will you use?

How will you keep the test fair?

Record your results and put the soils in order

