



## Fossils lesson plan KS2

<b>Time: 45 - 60 mins</b>	
<b>Curriculum areas covered:</b>	Programme of Study – Rocks & Fossils describe in simple terms how fossils are formed when things that have lived are trapped within rock
<b>Skills:</b>	Working scientifically: i) recording findings using simple scientific language and labelled diagrams ii) using straightforward scientific evidence to answer
<b>Teaching objectives:</b>	By the end of this lesson, the children will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe what fossils are and how they are formed.</li> </ul>
<b>Key vocabulary:</b>	
<i>Resources: feely bags containing shells, rocks and fossils; "What can turn into a fossil?" game cards and dry wipe pens, cloths, "How a fossil is made" set of game cards, worksheets, pencils, rubbers, hand lenses, fossil specimens, ID cards</i>	
<p><b>Learning Activity</b></p> <p><b>Starter/hook- 10 mins–</b> Whole class activity – ‘What is a fossil?’ using feely bags. <b>A fossil is the remains or imprint of an ancient (over 1 million years old) animal or plant in stone.</b></p> <p><b>What can turn into a fossil? 10 mins</b> Game cards used to show harder parts of animals and plants are more likely to be fossilised and soft parts least likely. Discussion at end to show that many things can be fossilized, it depends on a specific sequence of events for something to end up as a fossil. If something is buried immediately in anaerobic conditions, it will be preserved straightaway. Disturbance, exposure to oxygen, being eaten and rotting all contribute to prevention or interruption of fossilisation.</p> <p><b>How a fossil is made. 10 mins</b> Sequencing a set of game cards and sentences to show how most fossils are formed, in teams.</p> <p><b>Ichthyosaur. – Refer to centre Ichthyosaur fossil and Rutland 10m specimen 5 mins</b></p> <p><b>Identifying Fossils 10 mins</b> Using collection of real fossils and identification/fact cards, such as you would find in a field guide, children ID and record their findings about at least two fossils.</p> <p><b>Plenary 2/3 mins</b> Discussion of discoveries about fossils. Important the children realise just how old these fossils are!</p>	
<b>Differentiation</b>	To stretch and challenge. Option 1- Do an extra fossil. Option 2. Read Rockwatch Mag, do fossil word search. To support additional educational needs. Option
<b>Take away...</b>	Teacher to have Rockwatch magazine