

Component 1

WALT: Understand how fossils are formed

Introduction

Teacher to perform the story: Mary Anning Story, engaging with the children. Encourage the children to join with the repetitive elements.

All videos, documents and extra information can be found here:
sheffieldcurriculumadventures.co.uk/rocks-and-soils/

Back in the classroom:

Show vocabulary they will have already heard in the story, and some which will be new this lesson.

Children then retell the Mary Anning story in their own words. Perform it again first, if necessary. Play the video, and link it back to what we learnt from our Mary Anning story:

www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z9bbkqt/articles/z2ym2p3

Over time, more sand (**sediment**) fell on the sea bed, and more and more. And so it carried on for years, or ages, and on and on, and the layers of sand (**sediment**) got heavier and heavier and heavier. Everything got squashed down by the weight of the sand (**sediment**) on top of it. When sand gets squashed down, it turns into **sedimentary rock** and anything in the sand (**sediment**) also gets turned into **sedimentary rock**.

Using the above extract from the story, show an accompanying diagram and use the two to scientifically explain the process of the formation of sedimentary rock and fossils.

Learning Activity

1. Children retell the story, without the paper, in groups and use the props in order to do so. Use questioning to draw out missing information and encourage the use of technical vocabulary.
2. Reshow the vocabulary from the beginning of the lesson as we have recapped lots of knowledge. Can the children now discuss what any of the vocabulary means; or make any links between the words?
3. fossils, sedimentary rock, minerals, skeleton, sediment, pressure, decompose
4. Give out the **fossils mini-quiz** and get children to attempt the answers from what they have learnt from this lesson. The answers will be revisited in a further component.
5. Where possible, revisit the retelling of the story at other times.

Plenary questions for discussion:

- Who is Mary Anning?
- What are fossils?
- How are fossils formed?
- What type of rock are fossils found in?

Key Vocabulary

- Mary Anning
- fossil
- sediment
- sedimentary rock
- pressure
- decompose
- minerals

Resources

- The Mary Anning Story
- Mary Anning: pinny/ apron, bonnet hat (Victorian costume)
- Men of science hat
- blue, purple, brown, yellow scarves
- Ichthyosaur fin, fossils
- Collecting basket
- Y3 Rocks and Soils overview
- Fossils mini-quiz